

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

No. 77.—VOL. II.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1842.

PRICE 6d.

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

ECONOMY OF SPIRITUAL POWER.

IT is a matter of great difficulty, if not of absolute impossibility, to lay hold of an abstruse principle, like that now under investigation, to exhibit its tendencies, and calculate its forces, and reveal the process by which it embodies itself in external institutions, without resorting pretty freely to analogical illustrations. These are the pictures which serve to bring out, to the mind's eye, ideas which else would be too evasive for perception. They are not the thing itself, a knowledge of which is sought to be communicated, but they are near resemblances of it; or rather, we may say, they are lines along which mental vision may range, in order to catch a clear and steady view of the object beyond them. Compelled as we often are, and shall be, to adopt this mode of making ourselves intelligible to our readers, we think an explanation due to them. We wish to state, once for all, that such illustrations are not put forth by us as arguments, but as patterns of the shape which our arguments would assume, were we to pursue our subject in a train of abstract reasoning.

Our present object is to show the mode in which the voluntary principle economises its own strength—how it affords opportunity for the application of the whole power which religion at any given moment may supply, and how it undertakes no more than the existing amount of religion will enable it to realise. This is the general idea which we shall attempt, as we are able, to develop.

The object of religious institutions is sufficiently obvious to be understood by the dullest—they are designed and adapted to be the external medium by which subjective Christianity, that is, Christianity in the hearts of men, may nourish and confirm itself, and may bring the power of objective Christianity, that is, Christianity as a system of divinely revealed truth, to bear upon the consciences and hearts of those who have not received it. The reader will observe, then, that ecclesiastical institutions are an organised instrumentality by which religion may work out religious ends. In estimating, therefore, the value of the voluntary principle, in contradistinction from the system of national establishments, we must keep this exclusive object steadily in view. We must examine whether by means of this principle religion can make the most of itself—whether it is adapted to draw out the tendencies of Christian piety and benevolence—whether it checks their natural growth, or suffers their inherent vitality to run to waste—whether, in fact, it is capable of using up, and will, unless prevented by legislative intermeddling, use up the existing amount of religious power and activity, in furtherance of the spiritual interests of man. And we contend that, when we have shown this, we have shown enough. For, external institutions created and kept agoing by any other motive power than religion, or for any other purpose, can only be called religious institutions by courtesy; and a very misplaced courtesy it is. The framework is useless, unless the vitality be there to work it; and if the vitality sustain a framework commensurate with itself and with its own energy, it does all the good it can be made to do. The largest and most magnificent extension of means, unless there be a correspondent expansion of power, is just so much lost machinery. A forty-horse power of steam pressure is none the more efficient for being employed in working an engine constructed for a pressure of four-hundred-horse power—and, if we could imagine a mechanical result which steam power alone could perform, in such case, nothing whatever would be gained by employing the larger machine, and attempting to help out the deficiency of steam power by an expensive resort to external appliances.

Taking it for granted, then, that religious faith, feeling, and devotedness, must necessarily work the machinery of Christian institutions—that they, and they alone, by this or any other instrumentality, can tell effectually and permanently upon the spiritual condition of the world—we contend that the voluntary principle offers the widest scope and the largest inducements for their development. We say, that if these are to be held as constituting the steam power by which the mere mechanism is to be set and kept in motion, then this principle is the fire which will generate the largest volume of such power—that the mechanism itself will always be fitly proportioned to the amount of power required to work it—and that the artificial extension of mechanism, by state authority, creates the necessity of calling in the aid of some other force to work it than that of religion.

1. If man's faith in Christianity, and attachment to it, be held to constitute the central spring by whose elastic force those institutions which are designed to put truth in contact with human hearts are to be kept in motion, then, assuredly, those influences only which appeal to that faith, and which stimulate that attachment can be held to have any value in reference to this object. If religion is to work religious institutions, why, then, that system which is most likely to call out the energies of religion is unquestionably

the most efficient. Such we believe the voluntary principle to be. To devolve upon religious men the world's destiny; to throw upon them the responsibility of the world's conversion; to leave them to their own resources—to the resources of their faith, their piety, their self-sacrifice, their energy; to let the fact rest with undivided weight upon their consciences, that they stand between the living and the dead, and that in regard to spiritual instruction the world has nothing to look to but what they are prepared to furnish—is there, can there be a position, better adapted to bring out into full and earnest operation whatever of religion there may chance to exist? If this do not elicit its sympathies, what will? If this do not expand its zeal, what can? Religion, thus fairly, honestly, unequivocally appealed to, could not but respond—the very law of its own nature would impose upon it the necessity. The certainty of its response would be equal at least to that upon which we found our calculation, that water will be converted into steam by the agency of fire. To such an appeal, worldliness would not respond, hypocrisy would respond but feebly, but religion would respond most fully. Now, we are not now inquiring how either worldliness or hypocrisy may be made to work religious institutions most efficiently, but how religion may; and we say that if God's authority will not move it, man's cannot.

2. The voluntary principle will always secure an extent of mechanism proportionable to the amount of power which exists to work it. The inward vitality must ever push itself forth into outward being. The budding of the tree will be correspondent with its life. The spiritual world has its laws as well as the natural one. Love to man will be active in proportion to its intensity, and activity under the direction of Christian truth will run into permanent and regular organisation. All this is plain enough; and the only answer to it all is, that the amount of real religion is so lamentably small that, if provision for the spiritual wants of the human family were left to it, mankind at large would starve.

3. Suppose it were so. Forgetting for a moment, or rather deferring for after consideration the pressure upon the springs of the voluntary principle of state establishments, then the matter stands thus. Here is so much religion. That religion is sustaining in operation an extent of instrumentality in exact accordance with its own power. The instrumentality is confessedly deficient. Now, where is the use of extending the machinery when you have got as much already as religion will work? If the means thus artificially created are to be worked at all, they must be worked by something which is not religion—by worldliness, by hypocrisy, by superstition. Now, we have an idea that Christianity is not likely to gain by calling in these agents. They are but sorry allies. They resemble elephants employed in battle—more likely to trample down those who employ them, than to overcome those against whom they are arrayed. They constitute a motive power which soon deranges the machinery of religious institutions. They cannot work it kindly. But this we shall see more clearly next week.

A CONSECRATED GIFT.

WE beg to commend to the notice of our readers the following extract from the *Times* of Friday last. We know not how the ceremony therein detailed may strike their minds, but upon ours it has produced a very painful impression:—

Portsmouth, Thursday Evening.

"The imposing ceremony of presenting this gallant corps with new colours took place this afternoon on Southsea common, in the presence of a vast assemblage of persons, who had come from all parts of the county to witness it.

"The regiment having formed three sides of a square, the new colours, having been brought to the centre of the vacant side, were delivered over to the two majors, by whom they were laid out for consecration. The duty was performed by the Rev. Richard Bingham, jun., of Gosport, at the request of Lieutenant-colonel Campbell.

"The rev. gentleman then eloquently addressed the regiment—'The prowess of your corps,' he said, 'will never be forgotten, when Oudenarde, or Ramillies, or Blenheim is remembered. There are those truly who will ever rouse themselves, and think with honest pride how fields were won, as often as they hear the name of Wellington. But can Marlborough ever pass into oblivion? Yet with Marlborough the old 16th earned many an unfading wreath, while they assisted in laying the basis of that renown upon which the superstructure of England's modern glory has been so nobly raised. Allow me, however, again to remind you, that this your recognition of Him who giveth the victory will most redound to the honour of your corps. Oh, never let it be supposed, my gallant friends, that the profession of arms and the acknowledgment of God are incompatible. Away with the absurd, I had almost said the impious thought, that the worst men make the best soldiers. Is it possible that want of principle can give courage, or a reckless disregard of all that is moral and holy invigorate the mind for duty, or nerve the arm in the day of battle? Believe me, gallant men, sound principles and good morals, combined with reverence for God and his laws, will best support you in the hour of trial, or uphold you in the honourable discharge of your duties.'

"The rev. gentleman then offered up prayer, after which, Ensigns E. F.

and H. A. Macdonald received the colours kneeling, from Lady Pakenham, who pronounced a brief eulogium on the gallantry of the regiment."

That the spirit and precepts of Christianity are diametrically opposed to war, is so obvious as to require no proof. If offences, however, must needs come—if the world, under many retarding influences, is not yet sufficiently advanced to lay aside the sword—if the habits of modern courts and legislatures (for upon them the responsibility must be charged) are as yet too inaccessible to reason and religion to dispense with "the profession of arms," assuredly, the ministers of the gospel are the last persons who should evince their sympathy for, and display their sanction of, the trained instrumentality destined to wield this tremendous scourge of mankind. But for the worldly honour attached to military prowess, the

"Pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war," we much doubt whether the church would be so forward to recognise and to bless it; or whether the *insignia* of battle would be consecrated by the prayers of the clergy. Hangmen and turnkeys are quite as necessary to the well-being of nations as soldiers. They, as well as the military, perform very painful duties—and if they have not to brave the loss of life in the execution of their victims, they have to put up with the certain loss of social reputation. But the church stands far enough aloof from them. She never deigns to consecrate the halter, or to deliver the keys with a blessing. No clergyman stands forward to repudiate the idea that the profession of Jack Ketch and the acknowledgment of God are incompatible—or to assure the unhappy official for the sheriff, "that sound principles and good morals, combined with a reverence for God and his laws, will best support him in the hour of trial, and uphold him in the honourable discharge of his duties." Why not? Why is the one order of state executioners thus distinguished, whilst the other is neglected? Wherein, but in fancy, is the sword better than the halter? If the dispatch of a single criminal confers no title to the church's offices, how is it that the dispatch of thousands acquires the claim? The servant of the state, trained to inflict death for the supposed advantage of the state, ought not in the one case to be spurned away with horror, and in the other welcomed with extended arms. But in this, as in most other instances, the church but sympathises with the world. Were hangmen honoured as soldiers are, and did they enjoy, as soldiers do, the favour of courts, and the flattery of legislative bodies, they would not be without a blessing. Aristocratic smiles would win for them ecclesiastical prayers; and Newgate would witness many a consecration of new drops and halters.

MICHAELMAS DAY AND MICHAELMAS GEES.

THE *Morning Herald* informs the public that a number of metropolitan clergy intend, on Michaelmas day, to resume a distinctive dress—to appear at all ordinary times in the cassock, and to superadd to it on all public solemnities, and on every other dress occasion, the gown of their ministry or degree, the hood, the scarf, and, out of doors, the square cap. The revival of religion amongst the clergy develops itself in a most extraordinary manner. These gentlemen are affected just now with a determination of piety towards the skin. The symptoms first appeared within consecrated walls, and took the form of genuflexions, wax tapers, crucifixes, &c. They are now about to show themselves in our market-places and at the corners of our streets, after the fashion of those ancient ecclesiastical worthies who "made broad their phylacteries," and did something else not quite so harmless. We wish them joy of their determination—but we remember that, in our younger days, the forward folly which thrust upon the observation of others a man's own infirmities, usually earned for him the name of the venerable bird which saved the capitol; and the clergy who seem intent upon reminding us of swarming monks and ostentatious Pharisees, equally deserve the distinction. The day they have selected for first "showing their feathers" is a most appropriate one; and we expect there will be more geese in the market this season than usual.

A vestry meeting of the rated inhabitants of Bromsgrove, was held on Thursday last, pursuant to notice, "for the purpose of granting a church rate of 3½d. in the pound to the churchwardens, to defray the expenses of the repairs of the church, and other incidental charges to be incurred for the ensuing year." The feeling of the persons present appeared to be that the rate asked for was too large, and a discussion arose thereon; after which it was carried, "that a rate of 2d. in the pound, on the full annual value of the property of the parish, be granted to the churchwardens for the ensuing year." The correspondent of the *Worcestershire Chronicle* says—"there was not a single individual dissenter present at the meeting, so that it would seem the conscientious objections of that body in this parish to the payment of church rates have vanished away; if so, let them not complain when called on for payment, nor expect members of the church establishment to fight their battles for the future, when they are too careless and apathetic to put their own shoulders to the wheel."

On Thursday a vestry was held in the vestry room of St Mary Somerset, Upper Thames street, to take into consideration the best means of raising a sum for the necessary expenses of the church. In consequence of the hour fixed upon for the meeting (twelve o'clock) there was a thin attendance of ratepayers, and Mr W. Fitch, the churchwarden, suggested that as so few persons were present, it might be desirable to adjourn. It was then moved that the meeting be adjourned until Wednesday, September 28, at six o'clock in the evening. The motion was carried in the affirmative, and the meeting adjourned. Considerable opposition to the proposed rate is expected.

A vestry meeting was held in the parish of St Martin, Cheltenham, on Thursday last, at which a church rate of 3d. in the pound was asked for. The motion was met by an amendment for the adjournment of the meeting for six months, which was carried by a very large majority. A poll was then demanded by the supporters of the rate, which closed on Friday afternoon, when the numbers were, for the rate 190, against it 161.

At a vestry meeting held in the parish of Horncastle, in Lincolnshire, on Thursday last, a church rate of 3d. in the pound was unanimously agreed to. This furnishes another striking proof of the re-action that has taken place in the public mind on the subject of church rates.—*Times*.

A meeting of the friends of the establishment in Newport, Isle of Wight, was held at the National schools, on Wednesday last, for the purpose of taking into consideration the dilapidated state of St Thomas's church, and consulting on the propriety of repairing, or taking down and rebuilding, this ancient place of worship. The meeting was called by the curate, the Rev. Mr Maude; but there were not above a dozen persons present who professed to entertain any interest in the proceedings, and there were as many opinions uttered on the subject as there were speakers. It was at last deemed advisable by the majority that an endeavour should be made to collect subscriptions towards building a new church, the expenses of which it was supposed would amount to £7,000; the seats could then be let, and the proceeds thereof appropriated towards the expenses incurred.—*Hants Independent*.

On Monday last, a meeting was held in the independent chapel, Bicester, to express public sympathy with the twenty-two poor men of Launton, who had, for conscience' sake, taken joyfully the spoiling of their goods, and submitted patiently to the persecution of the rev. bigot of that place, rather than yield up their religious liberty and deny their faith. These twenty-two labourers, thus ejected from their gardens, had more than trebled the value of the land by their judicious cultivation, and were so well known to be honest and industrious, that among them were distributed the whole of the prizes last year, the rev. persecutor himself presiding at the presentation. The public meeting was numerous attended by liberally-minded men of all sects and parties; and the poor men had each a bible presented to them by the Rev. W. Ferguson.

Since the "suspension" of the Rev. T. S. Escott, the vicar of Gedney, "for the good of his soul's health, and the lawful correction and reformation of his recent excesses, especially for refusing to bury the child of a dissenter," not any church service has been performed in that large parish of 2,000 souls, which pays to the establishment an annual sum of £3,000 in tithes to the rector and the vicar. Funerals (so called) are performed without any burial service being read, and the whole ghostly offices of the church and the parish are suspended like the minister.—*Stamford Mercury*.

The parishioners of Potterhanworth, Lincolnshire, and their clergyman, the Rev. P. Curtois, are at loggerheads relative to the performance of divine service on Sabbath days. The rectory, which is in the patronage of the crown, is in the ecclesiastical returns set down at £665 a year; the parishioners say the real value is £800 a year; the population is returned at about 400. The parishioners think that they have a right to two services a day; Mr Curtois gives only one, and that at a most inconvenient time. Being rector of Branston, a still more valuable living, he performs divine service there twice a day, and takes the opportunity of performing service at Potterhanworth between the hours of the Branston services. The parishioners think that £1,500 a year would allow a scanty pittance for a curate to give them service twice a day, and they talk of memorialising the bishop to compel their spiritual guide to conform to the law, and give them more Christian teaching. The apostles did not require such appeals to impel them to their duty.—*Stamford Mercury*.

The intended new dean of Westminster is Dr Chandler, dean of Chichester; and he will be succeeded by the Rev. Mr Anderson, of Brighton, the Queen Dowager's chaplain.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—The necessity of a reform in the ecclesiastical courts has been admitted, and the delay, expense, and harassing nature of their practice, have been exposed and animadverted on for years past; and yet session after session of parliament is allowed to pass without any attempt to remedy the admitted evils of the system. It is a question worth consideration, whether the apathy and indifference of dissenters, or rather the laxity of principle existing among them, has not greatly contributed to the delay in their reformation. Had the hands of the few friends they have in the legislature been strengthened by vigorous efforts from without, the consideration of the subject would have been forced on the parliament; but there is only now and then a determined avowal of the principles of dissent—as in the case of Childs, Thorogood, and Baines, who came forward and boldly avowed their principles. These devoted men are praised for their courage, pitied for their sufferings, and a few give their assistance in a pecuniary way; but as for a determined, zealous, and persevering attempt to remove the crying injustice, where is it to be found?

We have now another victim of the tender mercies of a dominant church, and its so-called Christian courts, in the case of Charles Piggott, an inhabitant of Romford, who has been cited in the Arches court by the churchwardens of Hornchurch, Essex, for 8s. 4d., on the pretence of Hornchurch being the mother church to Romford, although he is called upon to pay a church rate for Romford. When application is made by him or any other inhabitant of Romford to bury their dead at Hornchurch, with truly maternal kindness, she refuses to do so without the payment of double fees. Those Christian men have pursued their victim through all the complicated forms of the Christian court of Arches; he is a poor man, unable to pay for doctor's and proctor's assistance, left to struggle through all the difficulties of its antiquated, monkish, and mysterious proceedings; he has attended about twenty-five of its sittings; witnesses have been examined against him; and, when asked if he had any witnesses to produce, was obliged to answer in the negative, from inability to meet the expense of bringing them forward.

It has been repeatedly decided that retrospective rates are illegal; a considerable portion of the rates for which he is cited, has been appropriated to pay a sum of money borrowed in the year 1832, to pay for repairs made in 1826, and stated to be borrowed under the provisions of the Church Building acts. What had the churchwardens of 1832 to do with debts contracted by the churchwardens of 1826? It is admitted that rates are not legal made to repay churchwardens of previous years—can it be legal to borrow money in 1832 to pay debts incurred in 1826? Yet such is the position maintained by an additional article of a libel admitted by Sir H. J. Fust, and it is presumed will be carried out by a final decree; and Piggott will have no alternative but an appeal to the Privy Council or a prison.

The Act 1 Viet., cap. 45, provides that notices of vestries shall be placed on or near the doors of all the churches and chapels in the parish or place. A similar provision is made in the Reform act, as to notices relative to voters, and to be placed on the doors of dissenting chapels. But the learned Judge of the Arches court considers it is not necessary to place them on the doors of *conventicles*.

One of the rates amounts to upwards of £300, and only £105 was expended, even including parish feasts and other objectionable articles. Yet the article on the part of Piggott, alleging that the rate was excessive, was rejected by the judge. Since the year 1826, a sum nearly, if not quite, equal to the sum of £350, borrowed in 1832, has been expended in parish feasts.

The above statement of the case of this defendant ought to excite the sympathy and procure assistance for him from dissenters generally. He is a poor man, and has a family dependent upon his daily exertions—he has had the boldness to resist what he considers an unjust and unlawful demand—he has been harassed by a long-protracted suit—he has felt a confidence in the legality of his resistance to the demand, and a fixed determination to resist to the utmost? Are the dissenters so tamed and humbled by the dominant church as to allow them to make a victim of this poor man, and establish a mode of evading the principle now clearly established, viz., that churchwardens cannot make rates to pay the debts contracted by previous churchwardens. The case will most probably be decided in Michaelmas term. These remarks have been drawn up unknown to the defendant, by one who has witnessed and admired his firmness and decision, and who has heard him praised and encouraged, as far as words go; but a little help is far more valuable to him than either praise or pity.

I am, sir,

A DECIDED FOE TO ECCLESIASTICAL TYRANNY.

London, September 12, 1842.

P.S. May I request the favour of your receiving a sovereign, sent with this, for Piggott, and that you will have the kindness to receive any free-will offering that the friends of religious freedom may be disposed to send to his aid.

ORDINATION OF DISSENTING MINISTERS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR—In your No. 76, of the 21st inst, there is a letter of "Query," on "Ordination of Dissenting Ministers." "Your opinion of the matter" has, doubtless, ere this, opened the eyes of many unaccustomed to think on such a subject. For the brief statement of those views the nonconforming body are much your debtors. As an individual, I tender you my sincere thanks for the same. I have no doubt objectors will appear; if in print, we shall be able to estimate them, the more, if they cannot tolerate "innovations."

I can truly say I have entertained the view you have taken, and have been acting it out some time. You have referred to "a church without a pastor." I happen to know something about a case of the kind. A minister is about to leave his charge; it is suggested by some, "the cause must fall," there being no prospect of a settled minister—"the ordinance cannot be administered"—"disorderly members cannot be got rid of," &c.; to these, and similar, I could not agree, and stated plainly—if, because the church is without a minister discipline cannot be maintained, I would cease to hold office as its deacon—the same respecting the ordinance, receiving new members, and suspending or dismissing disorderly; for which opinion I felt myself, and still feel, responsible, having it clear to my own mind, and making it clear to the minds of the members of the church, that I have scriptural grounds on which to stand; and, thus acting out these views, a disorderly has wisely withdrawn, negligent have returned to duty, one new member has been received and another proposed, who will most likely be received at the next church meeting, on satisfactory evidence. Not one service has been omitted since the late minister left, nor are our attendants fewer in number; thus, it is possible to "keep the doors open," and even more, although destitute of a pastor (the state church party have been striving hard to buy the chapel and get us out). I will not trespass further on your time at present, but if your correspondents require a "reason" for all this "innovation," it shall be forthcoming.

Meanwhile, I beg to subscribe myself, yours, very gratefully,
September 23, 1842.

A DEACON.

JURIDICAL SWEARING.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—Whether the taking of juridical oaths be lawful or not, it is doubtless desirable that the public should understand the meaning of the oath, as usually administered in our courts of justice. This, at present, is not the case. Not only the vulgar submit to the form in ignorance, but frequently those of a somewhat higher grade, not excepting religious persons, do not understand the meaning of the words used. Some consider that there is an appeal to God, without perceiving the imprecatory nature of the oath; and some suppose that God is called upon to help in speaking the truth. Now it ought to be distinctly known that the word *so* implies a condition—the juror agreeing to hinge all the advantages to be derived from the help of Almighty God on the fulfilment of his promise. It is said that the words were formerly recited, "So help me God at his holy dome." Allow me to present your readers with the following extract from Paley. "The energy of the sentence resides in the particle *so*; *so*, that is, *hac lege*, upon condition of my speaking the truth, or performing this promise, and not otherwise, may God help me." If anything more be needed to confirm this view, let the case of affidavits be considered. The deponent is addressed in some such language as the following: The contents thereof are true to the best of your knowledge, so help you God.

Should any one think the preceding explanation uncalled for, let him inquire separately of the next ten persons he may chance to meet with, what is the meaning they have been used to attach to the words referred to; and, peradventure, when he has received their answers he will retract his opinion.

20th Sept. 1842.

D. G.

THE COMPLETE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

The weekly meeting of the council, was held on Monday last, at the office of the Union, Waterloo street, Birmingham. They were principally engaged in attending to the correspondence of the week. We give the following extracts from letters received since our last number:—

"South Shields, Sept. 20, 1842.

"SIR—I beg to inform you that a complete suffrage association was formed this evening, to be called the South Shields Complete Suffrage association; a provisional committee has been appointed, and I, as secretary to the committee, have been requested to write to you for the necessary documents, cards, &c., to guide us in our future proceedings. Mr Vincent lectured here last evening, and has given an impetus to complete suffrage principles, which I hope will not soon be forgotten. As the committee meet again on Monday, 26th inst, I will feel obliged by your transmitting the cards, &c., before that time, as we expect a good association in this town.

"W. Morgan, Esq.

"I am, sir, yours truly,
JOHN STRACHAN."

"DEAR SIR—I herewith hand you a post-office order for £4 10s. 0d., being the amount for 180 half-yearly cards, sent us August 18. Please acknowledge per return of post. Please send us 100 more half-yearly and a half-a-dozen yearly cards of membership, with 100 each of the tracts, 'Reconciliation of the Middle and Working Classes,' and 'An Appeal to the Middle Classes, by one of themselves; the cards we shall want before our next weekly meeting, which will be on Tuesday, September 27. The register sheets are not yet filled up, but shall be sent in eight or ten days. Mr J. Sturge was here on Tuesday last, with Mr Albright; we had a large meeting of the electors, and a very friendly discussion took place on the principles of complete suffrage, and I think much was done towards breaking down their prejudices. We have hitherto met with no formal opposition, but on the contrary, there appears to be a very friendly feeling manifested towards the Union.

Yours respectfully,

"47, Queen street, Sheffield, Sept. 22, 1842.

JAMES ALLEN."

"DEAR SIR—I am much pleased to inform you that Mr Collins got safe here on Tuesday last, and gave us his first lecture that evening. It was very well attended, and gave much satisfaction. Mr Collins went over the chief objections urged against the extension of the suffrage to the working classes, and was very successful in answering them. On Wednesday Mr Collins delivered his second lecture to a still larger audience, who listened with the most careful attention to his clear and forcible illustrations of the principles of complete suffrage, as set forth by the National Union. He showed the reasonableness of the demand; its safety to the state, to persons and property, and the perfect practicability of its adoption; and contended, from a variety of facts, that the middle classes had more to dread from the present position of affairs than from the adoption of any measure that would give to every male aged twenty-one years a vote in the election of members of parliament. Mr Collins was loudly cheered at the end of each lecture, and we gave him a most hearty vote of thanks on the Wednesday evening. I think his lectures will do much good in Doncaster. I am also most happy to say we have succeeded in opening a door for him in Pontefract. He lectures there on Friday evening, and I hope he will do some good in that very corrupt borough. I believe he intends leaving Pontefract on Saturday morning direct for Hawick. We will be able to get a room at Wakefield some time else, as Mr Collins found he would not have time before he went to Edinburgh. Our friends here are enthusiastic admirers of Henry Vincent: if he would follow up Mr Collins, some time ere long, we would be much gratified. In the mean time we are all much obliged for the help given to the cause by Mr Collins's visit; and wishing you every success,

I am, dear sir, your obedient servant,

"Doncaster, 22nd Sept., 1842.

JOHN HARTLEY."

"DEAR SIR—Enclosed you will find a post-office order for the amount for twenty cards of membership to the National Complete Suffrage Union. You will please likewise send a few copies of the rules and objects of the association.

"Mr Clarke has lectured twice here in our Town hall. Many persons appeared to take a deep interest in the movement, in consequence of which I have been requested to commence the formation of a society. We are awfully misrepresented by the two members for the borough. The voters appear to be wedged in by corrupt influence; but yet a contest on behalf of a complete suffrage man would do much good, as it would afford an excellent opportunity for the assertion and defence of great principles; to this object the attention of our society will be in a great measure directed.

"I am, sir, yours truly,

THOMAS HOLMAN."

"Totnes, Sept. 23, 1842.

Letters were also read from Robert Cove, Modbury, Devon, enclosing 10s. for 20 cards, and referring to a lecture delivered there by Mr Clarke—"One more such lecture at Modbury will, I am certain, procure a majority of votes on our side." From John Hills, Sunderland, with application for cards and tracts. From George Goodwin, Ipswich, with subscriptions and names of 20 members. From Tewkesbury, Bolton, and Northampton, asking for information necessary to the formation of a complete suffrage union.

LEEDS.—A meeting of the Leeds Parliamentary Reform association was held on Monday week, in their large room at the bottom of Albion street; to consider the propriety of enlarging the basis of the association; and it had been publicly notified by advertisement the previous week, that a specific resolution, declaratory of the justice and necessity of extending the suffrage "to all men of adult age, of sound mind, and not disqualified by crime," would be proposed to the meeting. It had also been pretty generally known, that an amendment for resolving the association into a complete suffrage association, and thus connecting it with the great movement headed by Mr Joseph Sturge, would be proposed for the consideration of the members. The meeting was, therefore, one of considerable importance, and involved in its decision a great change in the principles and general character of the institution. The room was filled on the occasion. Mr T. G. Marshall, president, being out of town, Mr J. Bower was unanimously called to the chair. Mr Robert Martin, the secretary, read a report of the committee, which recommended the adoption of the following resolution:—

"That a complete and just representation of the people in parliament, and the enjoyment by the community of the full benefit of the possession, by all its citizens, of the rights and obligations of free men, can only be secured by the extension of the suffrage to all men of adult age, of sound mind, and not disqualified by crime."

The secretary concluded by moving the resolution, which was seconded by Mr John Robinson. Mr King then rose and moved as an amendment:—

"That the Leeds Parliamentary Reform association do now resolve itself into a complete suffrage association; and that the following be its objects:—

- 1st. The extension of the elective franchise to every man of twenty-one years of age, who is not deprived of his rights of citizenship in consequence of the verdict of a jury of his countrymen.
- 2nd. The ballot.
- 3rd. The abolition of the property qualification.
- 4th. Equal electoral districts.
- 5th. Annual parliaments.
- 6th. The payment of all legal election expenses, and a reasonable remuneration to members of parliament.

He argued at considerable length in support of the amendment, which was seconded by Mr Charles Cummins, and ably supported by Mr Green, Mr R. Martin, and Dr Smiles. After some further discussion the Chairman put the question to the meeting, when the amendment was carried unanimously. The decision was received with applause. Mr Robert Martin said the adoption of the amendment had virtually dissolved the Leeds Parliamentary Reform association, and it would now be necessary to elect new officers and a fresh committee. After some desultory discussion, the following resolution was agreed to:—

"That the following gentlemen constitute a committee, to draw up a code of rules for the government of the society, and to arrange such other matters as are necessary

to the proper establishment of a Complete Suffrage association—Dr Smiles, Dr Craven, Messrs Green, King, Hurst, Robinson, Nichols, Greveson, and Irwin."

On Wednesday Mr Sturge addressed a very numerous meeting in the large room of the association, where his exposition of the principles and plans of the National Complete Suffrage Union, was received with much cordiality of feeling and almost perfect unanimity of opinion. The simplicity and quiet earnestness of his manner, and the clearness of his statements and reasonings, carried his audience with him, and kept up an interest which more showy speakers have often failed to excite. He was accompanied by Mr Albright, a member of the council of the National Complete Suffrage Union at Birmingham, who supported with much ability the principles of the movement. The meeting was called by circular, and assembled at noon, when almost every person who had received a circular was present, and the room was filled. Mr Charles Cummins was unanimously elected chairman. The meeting adjourned until the evening, when Mr Sturge again addressed the assembly. An attempt was made to procure a larger room, so crowded was the meeting, but it was unsuccessful. A discussion took place at the conclusion of Mr Sturge's address; after which, a very enthusiastic vote of thanks was passed. The *Leeds Times* remarks as follows upon Mr Sturge's visit to Yorkshire:—

"The principal subject of political interest at present is the progress of the complete suffrage question. Joseph Sturge has been among us during the past week, and sown seed which will yet bring forth abundantly. He has already visited Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, and Huddersfield, and made a strong impression wherever he has gone. There can be no doubt that the principles had already taken deep root in this neighbourhood, but Mr Sturge's exertions have given them a great impulse, especially among the middle classes of electors; and it is precisely there that the strongest impression now requires to be made. The great object of his mission is to bring over the middle classes to a conviction of the necessity of equal enfranchisement and equal justice to all. And Joseph Sturge is, by his suavity of manner, his high moral and religious character, and his simple yet clear and convincing method of advocating the question, above all other men calculated to effect this object."

SHEFFIELD.—On Tuesday evening a meeting, convened by circular, was held in the Assembly rooms, to confer with Mr Sturge on the subject of complete suffrage, and the measures proposed by the Union for its promotion. The meeting had been called by circular, with a view to friendly conversation, but it became so numerous as to assume more of the character of a public meeting. E. Bramley, Esq., was called to the chair, and briefly introduced Mr Sturge, who was received with much applause. He gave a lengthy address, which was listened to with deep attention; and the meeting, which was throughout of a most enthusiastic and animating character, closed about ten o'clock.

DERBY.—On Monday se'nnight, Mr Sturge and Mr Albright met the friends of complete suffrage in the school room in Chapel street. The room was filled by a highly respectable audience, including many leading middle class men. There were also some mechanics present. The Rev. J. Gawthorn briefly introduced Mr Sturge to the meeting, and he was received with great cordiality. Mr S. addressed the assembly at some length, and entered into a statement of the principles upon which the movement was founded, and the benefits which, in his opinion, were likely to result from its success. He was listened to with great attention, and at the close of his address a conversation took place, and a vote of thanks was unanimously passed.

LONDON.—A meeting took place on Thursday night, of the members of the national charter association, at which the question of the propriety of supporting the objects contemplated by the Complete Suffrage association was again discussed. Those who were in favour of the union with the Complete Suffrage association (amongst whom were Mr Cohen, Mr Peat, &c.) strongly urged the necessity of a better understanding, and of more unanimity of sentiment, among the body of reformers. They deprecated the prejudices under which the operatives had too long laboured against the middle classes, and showed how it was very likely that these prejudices would be dissipated by the contemplated grand national conference. They reminded the meeting how efficient the Complete Suffrage association had shown itself at the late elections for Nottingham, Ipswich, and Southampton. They maintained that the working classes could not obtain their ends unless they consented to take advantage of a power which they found already in existence, and joined the honest of the middle class. In conclusion, they warned the meeting against those leaders who kept up agitation only for the sake of their own personal importance, and because they were afraid of being obliged to give up their leadership if a union took place with the middle class. On the other hand, those opposed to the union (Mr Ferguson, Mr Williams, &c.) asked the working classes whether they could trust the middle classes, who had deceived them at the time of the Reform bill, and who had oppressed them so often, and in such various ways. They maintained that, as the chartists were the older body, it was the Sturgeites who ought to come over to them, if there was any sincerity in the "new movement." They strongly deprecated giving up that chartist organisation for which they had struggled so long and so hard. No vote was come to, the settlement of the question being adjourned to a future day.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Thursday last a respectable meeting of burghesses from each ward, convened by circular, took place at the office of the Complete Suffrage Union, Waterloo street, to take the necessary steps to ensure the return of complete suffrage candidates at the municipal elections on the 1st of November next. Mr J. C. Perry having been called to the chair, Mr Hawkes laid before the meeting the grounds of the present step, and particularly urged the importance of securing an elective magistrate, independent of the crown, by the choice of a mayor; and also of opposing the whig town councillors who had consented to the continuance of the present police force, armed with cutlasses, and costing £29,000 per annum. Councillors W. H. Smith, Truman, Eneas, and Field, and other gentlemen, took part in the proceedings; after which, the burghesses from each ward engaged to form ward committees, for the purpose of carrying the elections. It was agreed that the following test should be applied to the retiring councillors and new candidates, viz.—"Will you vote for a petition from the Town council to parliament in favour of the representation of the people in the House of Commons, according to the principles embodied in the six points of complete suffrage?" The persons present then resolved themselves into a general committee to co-operate with the ward committees, and adjourned until October the 6th, at the same place, in order to afford time for the necessary ward arrangements. It was stated that out of the sixteen retiring councillors nine would take

the pledge; the other seven, who are mere whigs, will be opposed by complete suffrage candidates, and the others will be nominated for re-election.

TAUNTON.—The general monthly meeting of the Complete Suffrage union took place last week. The ordinary business having been transacted, (during which sixteen new members were elected), Mr Sturge's addresses to the unenfranchised classes, &c., also his memorial to the Queen, were respectively read, and elicited warm applause. A discussion on the state of the country followed, in which the evils of class legislation were lamented, and the marked desire of the present government to suppress the peaceable expression of public opinion, was strongly deprecated. The following resolutions were then unanimously carried:—

"That while this association deplores the recent insurrection among their distressed fellow-countrymen of the north, they are gratified at the remarkable respect shown by the multitude for persons and property, when their feelings were heated and exasperated, and they hail such unusual forbearance as an additional proof of the fitness of the people for political power."

Resolved—"That this association do use increased exertion to obtain a full, fair, and free representation of the people in the house of Commons, believing that the causes of distress will never be removed, until taxation and representation go hand in hand."

The members of the Taunton Complete Suffrage union hold weekly meetings, at which the *Nonconformist* is read, and principles are discussed. These meetings are well attended, and the best feeling prevails. The only drawback is the want of command of a suitable room. The society already numbers 84 members, among whom are 42 borough electors, and 6 county electors, and several others who will be on the register this year.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday se'nnight there was a large meeting at the assembly rooms to hear Henry Vincent. The meeting was a mixture of the middle and working classes. Mr Mayher introduced Mr Vincent, who was loudly applauded. Mr V. gave a full illustration of the principles and objects of the Union. He also dwelt at length on the necessity of union between the middle and working classes. The most intense interest was manifested by the audience, who applauded the lecture throughout, and at the conclusion, gave vent to their feelings in loud and repeated cheers. An attempt will be made to form a complete suffrage union immediately.

It is in contemplation to form a complete suffrage association in Haworth. A number of electors have expressed a wish to become members.

DONCASTER.—The inhabitants of Doncaster were last week favoured by a visit from Mr John Collins, of Birmingham, who delivered two excellent lectures in the Town hall, on the principles of complete suffrage. The first lecture was delivered on Tuesday evening, to a very large and attentive audience; W. Chadwick, Esq., of Arksey house, in the chair. Mr Collins dwelt chiefly upon the objections urged by the middle classes, against extending the franchise to the working millions of their fellow-countrymen, and was very successful in refuting the fallacies by which these objections are usually supported. He proved most triumphantly that these objections arose mainly from prejudice, interest, or mere want of knowledge, on the part of the objectors, as many of the charges brought against the working classes were wholly unfounded, while others might with equal propriety be charged upon those who already possess the franchise. Mr Collins concluded by an earnest appeal to their sense of justice; and the great danger that must result from the refusal of the upper and middle classes, to listen to the just claims of their fellow-subjects to participate in all the rights and immunities of British citizenship. On Wednesday evening Mr Collins delivered his second lecture, when the hall was literally crowded with a most anxiously attentive audience, Mr Hastie being called to the chair. Mr Collins went fully into the principles of the National Complete Suffrage Union, contending that nearly all the social evils under which the country labours, are clearly to be traced to the selfish and exclusive principles upon which the legislative institutions of the nation are based. All parties were pleased with the manly and honest manner in which he asserted the rights of the millions; and there is no doubt but that a few more such lectures in Doncaster will go far to remove those prejudices through which many of the middle classes now look upon the movement. At the close of the lectures, on the motion of Mr G. Siddall, a most hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr Collins for his two very interesting lectures.

PONTEFRAC.—Mr Collins lectured, on Friday evening, to an overflowing audience in Pontefract, and many were compelled to go away for want of room. The friends of the cause, in this neighbourhood, have had their hands strengthened, and the enemies of truth have been confounded.

TOTNES, DEVON.—On Wednesday evening Mr Charles Clarke delivered a second lecture in the Guildhall of this borough, over which Mr Alderman Angel was again called on to preside. The lecturer, as on the last occasion, gave great satisfaction to the audience by the clear and forcible manner in which he described the manifold abuses resulting from class legislation, and the great good that would result from a full enfranchisement of the people. We understand that cards of membership have been sent for, and that an association will be immediately formed.

DARTMOUTH, DEVON.—On Thursday evening a large number of the inhabitants of this borough met in Agar's Assembly room, when Mr Clarke delivered a lecture upon the demoralising effects of aristocratic legislation, and the necessity of obtaining free institutions for the full development of the moral and intellectual capacities of the people. Several members of the town council were present, and expressed themselves highly satisfied, promising to assist in the formation of a complete suffrage association.

NEWCASTLE.—The *Gateshead Observer* has the following remarks upon the paragraph in the *Times* which we quoted in our last:—

"The *Times* newspaper, we see, has inserted a paragraph, professing to be a relation of facts connected with Mr Vincent's late lectures in Newcastle on complete suffrage. The whole statement is a tissue of falsehood and misrepresentation. It may appear to the *Times* an excellent device to brand the friends of complete suffrage, in Newcastle and Gateshead, as a band of 'bible roasters'—a body of 'infidels' and 'atheists'; for the Tories, when arguments cannot be found, know well how to 'throw out a hobgoblin,' to serve their cause with the prejudiced and the unthinking. We accept it as a confession of

weakness—an admission of the progress of complete suffrage views—that the *Times* has recourse to this disreputable manoeuvre. The author of the paragraph is fully aware of its untruth. He does not need to be told that Mr Vincent is neither 'infidel' nor 'atheist.' He knows, or ought to know, that the lecturer earnestly exhorted the people to the performance of their duties, as set forth in the New Testament; and that the parties who introduced Mr Vincent to Newcastle, so far from being 'bible roasters,' are consistent members of the Christian church."

EDINBURGH.—The council, at their meeting on Wednesday last, were principally occupied in discussing and determining the necessary arrangements for the approaching banquet to Mr William Sharman Crawford. Several letters were read from individuals resident in country districts, expressing their strong desire to form provincial associations, for the furtherance of complete suffrage principles, and requesting information as to the proper mode of procedure. The secretaries were instructed to forward to these parties the requisite information for their guidance, accompanied with a copy of the laws of the Edinburgh union, and summary of the acts of parliament relating to political societies. The banquet to Sharman Crawford, Esq., which takes place to-morrow (Thursday), is looked forward to with intense interest, not only by the members of the Edinburgh Complete Suffrage union, but by the friends of the cause generally throughout the country. We understand that deputations will be present from Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dumfries, and other Scottish towns and burghs. Besides the distinguished guests, many eminent reformers from different parts of the kingdom will be present; and it is anticipated that the demonstration will be one of the most brilliant that has been witnessed in Edinburgh since the Grey festival. The demand for tickets is very great, and the committee have resolved strictly to limit the number issued, to avoid anything like inconvenience or crowding.

GLASGOW.—On Wednesday evening last, a meeting of the Complete Suffrage association was held, and additional measures taken to forward the business of the banquet. There were also a great many additional invitations voted to influential friends of the cause. Another and more important meeting was held on Friday, at which was present upwards of 200 of the leading middle class reformers of the city—all electors. This meeting unanimously agreed to attend the coming banquet, and to heartily welcome Messrs Crawford, Sturge, Vincent, and the other illustrious guests to be present on the occasion.

GALASHIELS, SCOTLAND.—Two highly important meetings have been held here, in the Relief church, to hear addresses from Henry Vincent, who passed through this town on his way to Glasgow and Edinburgh. The first meeting was held on Thursday night, when Mr Vincent received a kind and enthusiastic welcome, and addressed the meeting principally in illustration of the principles of the Union, and the reasons which had induced their adoption. Never was a meeting more completely with a speaker—delight and enthusiasm beamed in every countenance. On Friday night the church was densely crowded, and Mr Vincent's reception was still more exciting. He spoke for two hours in a series of appeals to the reason of his audience, in defence of the representative principle; the most intense interest was excited. At the close of the meeting, the pastor of the church moved a vote of thanks to Mr Vincent, which was carried with tremendous cheering. Mr V. briefly returned thanks, hoping they would do all in their power to strengthen the movement. Mr Henry Wentworth, a large manufacturer, presided at the first meeting; and Mr Sanderson, a working man, at the second. Steps will immediately be taken to form a union, and a delegate will be sent to the great conference in Birmingham. The Edinburgh and Glasgow banquets are looked forward to with great interest.

VALE OF LEVEN.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of the Vale of Leven was held in the Odd Fellows hall, on the evening of Monday the 19th. Powerful and eloquent addresses were delivered by Messrs Currey and M'Ewing, from Glasgow, on the evils of class legislation, and the necessity of union among all classes of reformers; after which the following resolution was proposed by Mr John Millar:—

"That this meeting, seeing that the only difference existing between the Complete Suffrage union and the Universal Suffrage association, is the name, this meeting pledge themselves to abide by their organisation, name and all, until altered by a national conference called for that purpose, to be elected by universal suffrage; and this meeting call upon the nation to get up one as soon as possible."

GENERAL NEWS.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The leading articles in the Paris papers refer principally to the treaty lately concluded between the United States and Great Britain, but contain little of general interest. It would appear that the French government, confident of the maintenance of peace, contemplates immense reductions in the land forces of France. The *Commerce* states that the soldiers of the class of 1837 (whose term of service will not expire till the 31st December, 1843) will be discharged on the 1st of January next. The same paper affirms, that the effective force of every regiment of infantry will be reduced from 2,120 men to 1,820. The government contemplates forming a corps of municipal guards sufficiently numerous to constitute in itself the garrison of Paris, when the fortifications shall have been completed. The French papers give details of the re-appearance of Abd-el-Kader in the field. It seems that, with a thousand horse and a proportionate number of infantry, he surprised General Lamoriciere near Mascara, and fought an action, in which the French were, of course, victorious. But the circumstances were serious enough to induce General Bugeaud to embark for Oran, from whence he will send a new expedition. The papers also refer to the change of ministry in Constantinople, which they regard as likely to produce a speedy termination of the affairs of Syria.

SPAIN.

Accounts from Madrid state that all the rumours of ministerial modifications had subsided, and it was believed that no change would take place in the cabinet before the meeting of the Cortes. Mr Southeran, secretary to the British legation in Lisbon, was expected in Madrid; but it does not appear that he had been charged with any political mission. Some disturbances had occurred at Cordova. The

Madrid Gazette publishes a circular of the Minister of Justice, enjoining the tribunals to prosecute dueling with the utmost rigour of the law. Appended to this document is an article recommending public functionaries "not to overstep the limits within which the law has circumscribed them," and "never to enter into any *polémique* with the journals about matters of administration." The government had obtained an advance of 2,000,000 of reals; the one from the Marquis de Remisa, and the other from Senor Sevillano. The latter requested of the Minister of Finance that his share of the loan should be distributed among the civil and military pensioners of the state. Senor Gonzales had returned from St Sebastian. There was nothing certain as yet respecting the convocation of the Cortes; but it was believed that it would take place on the 1st of November.

PORTUGAL.

Lisbon news to the 19th instant has arrived. The Cortes were adjourned on the 15th, till the 1st December, when they will meet again to pass the Douro Wine Company bill, and other government measures now in various stages either in one chamber or the other. The cause of the adjournment appears to have been a ministerial crisis, brought about by the determination of a large portion of the ministerial members to have the vacant seats of the cabinet filled up before the prorogation, which would have taken place as soon as the government measures had passed the chambers. Meetings were held for this purpose, and at last a representation was made to the Duke of Terceira, that the government, constituted as it was, did not possess the confidence of the majority. The Duke immediately tendered his resignation: a council of state was summoned, when it was urged by Senhor R. F. Magalhaes that the government ought not to retire before an out-of-door demonstration, no hostile act having taken place in the Cortes. The question was finally settled by the retirement of the ministers of marine and justice, whose resignations were accepted; and by the Duke of Terceira giving up the foreign office, which he only held provisionally, remaining war minister and president as before. Costa Cabral continued in the home department, and Baron Tojal in that of finance. The ministers chosen, were Gomez de Castro, foreign department; Sousa e Azevedo, justice and ecclesiastical affairs; and Falcao, marine and colonies. The majority appears not to have been highly satisfied with this unexpected result, having anticipated that the vacant posts would have been filled up from among its own members.

AMERICA.

By the arrival of the *Warspite* with Lord Ashburton, American papers of three days later date than those brought by the last packet have been received. Their contents relate chiefly to the dinner given to his lordship at New York. His reception at New York was flattering in the extreme. At the Civic hall between 2,000 and 3,000 citizens were introduced to him, and at Astor house he was entertained at a public banquet, which is described as one of the most important and interesting *fetes* ever given in that country. At the upper end of the room, behind the chairman, there were three most beautiful and simply gorgeous canopies of pink, blue, and white satin drapery. The toast of the evening, to which Lord Ashburton responded in a long speech, was "Our guest, Lord Ashburton, happiness and honour to him who has contributed to preserve peace between two great nations."

The papers contain a message from the President to the House of Representatives, which constitutes a protest against the report of the committee of thirteen on the late veto. Mr Tyler says, that he holds the executive government in trust for the people; he shows that, however unprecedented the mode in which he attained the chief office, it was in a perfectly regular course, and, therefore, he had not "usurped" any power; and he maintains, that, however unusual, his exercise of the veto was also performed in a regular manner, and in strict accordance with his sense of responsibility for the duties intrusted to him. He says that, had he been impeached before the Senate, he would have met the accusation with firmness; but he protests against the unfairness and "unconstitutionality" of Mr Adam's report, adopted by the House.

RUSSIA.

Intelligence has been received that the greater part of the city of Kasan has been destroyed by fire. It is stated that 1,200 houses (400 of which were of stone), 12 churches, the extensive magazine, and the university are reduced to ashes. The second St. Petersburg insurance company is a great loser by this fire. Several houses, and 40 warehouses, with goods, have been destroyed by fire in the city of Jasoslaff. The Emperor set out on the 13th, on an extensive tour in the interior of the empire. His Majesty goes post to Kiew, then to Wossnosensk, to review the troops assembled there; then to the ports of the Black sea, particularly Odessa and Sebastopol, whence he will return by way of Warsaw and St. Petersburg.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Cape of Good Hope papers have been received, from Cape Town to the 30th of July, from Graham's Town to the 21st. No further authentic information has been received. The Pilot store-ship had arrived at Port Elizabeth, and brought reports that five leading emigrants had been given up, and that the Zoola aborigines had "commenced the work of immolation," killing the Boers and their wives, with frightful cruelties. The *Graham's Town Journal* of July 14th mentions a native rumour, that a number of waggons had been seen moving towards the Draaksberg, the great mountain-chain which separates Natal from the extensive plains to the north, as if some of the Anglo-Dutch had begun to re-emigrate. The detachment of the 25th regiment that was sent to the assistance of Captain Smith, returned to Simon's Bay on the 31st July, in the Queen's ship *Isis*; and it was to embark immediately for India—a presumptive proof that its service was no longer required in South Africa.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

A lecture on parliamentary reform was delivered on Thursday night, by Jonathan Duncan, Esq., B.A., at the Temperance hall, York street, Westminster. The meeting was called by the committee of the Metropolitan Parliamentary Reform association. The delivery

of the lecture occupied about two hours, and on its conclusion the meeting expressed their approbation of it by long and repeated applause. The Chairman (Mr Wilson) having called on any person who might differ in opinion from Mr Duncan to come forward, Mr Dowling rose and said, he had listened with delight to the lecture of Mr Duncan, and had nothing whatever to say against what had been advanced; but he would remark, that, although he considered Mr Duncan honest, he had great suspicions of these middle-class reformers. He moved a resolution by way of opposition to the existence of the Metropolitan Parliamentary Reform association. Dr Black complained of Mr Dowling's conduct in interrupting this and other meetings. He maintained that the principles of the charter did not justify such conduct; that they were identical with those of radicalism at its rise in 1780, and were incompatible with tyranny in any form; that intolerance and quarreling were not chartism, any more than bigotry was religion; that those who went about creating discord in the suffrage ranks, were not the true friends but the true enemies of the charter; that by thus retarding the movement for the six points, they did precisely what the oligarchy desired to be done. He then moved, as an amendment, "That it is the opinion of this meeting that, without a union of the working and middle classes, the six points of the charter can never be obtained, and that the greatest enemies of the charter are those who foment disunion amongst reformers." Mr Charles Westerton seconded the amendment. Mr Dowling withdrew his resolution in favour of Dr Black's amendment, which was then put as the original resolution, and carried unanimously with great acclamation; Mr Dowling himself voting for, and declaring he could not oppose it.

On Friday night, in connexion with the above association, a very numerous conversational meeting of the radicals of Bermondsey was held at the Ship tavern, Long lane. The meeting was called for the purpose of producing a good understanding between the various sections of the suffrage party. Mr Maynard, the secretary of the National Charter association, moved a resolution, expressing the meeting's opinion, "That the grievances of both the middle and working classes can only be redressed by obtaining the charter, which might soon be done by a union of the middle and working classes in their common cause." A long and animated discussion then ensued, which lasted until a late hour, and in which Dr Black, Messrs Duncan, Charles Westerton, Fanchild, Morton, Ruffy, Ridley, Stallwood, Ross, and Wheeler took part. The resolution was seconded by Dr Black, put to the meeting, and carried unanimously. The best feeling prevailed, and the meeting seemed cordially to agree with the speakers in the necessity of such a reconciliation as would prevent a continuance of that system of quarreling and denunciation which has hitherto kept them separate, and impeded the progress of the common cause.

A court of common council was held on Thursday, at which Mr Anderton gave notice of a motion to consider the means of reducing the names of persons put up to the livery in Common-hall, to be elected as sheriffs of London and Middlesex; and also of a motion that a return be made of the persons, not being aldermen, who were put up to be elected sheriffs on Midsummer day last. Mr Lott asked whether the report which related to the embankment of the river had been considered? Sir F. Trench had given notice that he should move next session for a select committee on the subject, in order to show that the work might be done without making a demand on the public purse, in such a manner as to improve the navigation and promote the health of the inhabitants of the metropolis; and Mr Walker, the civil engineer, had stated in his report, that a splendid communication might be formed from Chelsea into the heart of the city, along the bank of the river; a design which had been contemplated with great interest by the public. An answer was promised at the next meeting. Mr King moved to rescind a resolution passed some years back, for abstaining from letting for building on any further land at the west end of Cheapside, in expectation that the government would eventually join with the city in throwing open a considerable space between the Post office and St Paul's. Mr L. Jones opposed the motion, stating that the improvements might be anticipated in about a couple of years more. After some conversation, in which the propriety of widening such thoroughfares as Watling street and Newgate street was urged, the motion was negatived by a large majority.

Last Wednesday being St Matthew's day, the orations were delivered by the senior scholars of Christ's hospital according to annual custom. The doors of the great hall were opened at half-past twelve, and by one o'clock the spacious and noble apartment was filled in every part, save the seats reserved for the scholars. The Lord Mayor and other civic dignitaries having arrived, the orations and odes were delivered in the following order:—Latin oration, by George Edwin Pattenden, second Grecian; English oration, by Peter Hamel Ham-mill, first Grecian; Greek oration, by William Haig Brown, fourth Grecian; French oration, by William Romanis, third Grecian and "Times" scholar. These four young gentlemen are proceeding to Cambridge. Several orations were afterwards delivered by the junior scholars. The young gentlemen acquitted themselves in a highly satisfactory manner, and received the compliments of the Lord Mayor. At the conclusion of the ceremony the usual subscriptions were entered into for the benefit of the scholars proceeding to the university.

The Metropolitan Registration courts have entered upon their yearly task, with far less bustle and manifestation of interest than used to characterise their proceedings. There is, however, the same system of wholesale objections. In Marylebone the gross number of objections, tory and liberal, is 1,429; and the total of new claims amounts to 184. The agents of the two political parties agreed to raise no trivial or captious questions upon technical points. A case where the collector refused to receive the amount of taxes due, because part of the money tendered was in light sovereigns, although the deficiency was offered in other coin, the barrister put the claimant on the list, observing that, notwithstanding the Queen's proclamation on the subject of the light coin, her tax-collector could not refuse her coin as a legal tender. Mr Charles Dickens was objected to because he had let his house during his tour in America. It was contended that his servants retained possession for him, and were hired, together with the house, by the tenant. The revising barrister decided that Mr Dickens had lost his qualification.

Omnibuses of a novel construction have lately been plying between Islington and Chelsea. They are provided with a small brass box on the left-hand side of the door, in which are placed three drums marked with figures; the first with units as far as nine, the second with tens as far as ninety, and the third with hundreds as far as nine hundred. Passengers entering the vehicle are obliged to press upon some iron rods, similar in their action to the toll-gates on Waterloo bridge. These rods are connected with a brass tube under the roof, which, acting like a key upon the drums, causes each passenger to mark his own number, so that the proprietors are enabled at the end of the day to ascertain how many persons their omnibus has carried, without trusting to the conductors. The rods also serve the purpose of assisting passengers to their seats, and of preventing the liability to accident by the omnibus suddenly moving on. These coaches are called by the proprietors "indicators."

FIRE AT WHITBREAD'S BREWHOUSE.—On Thursday morning a fire broke out in the above brewery, which for a time threatened the most serious consequences. It appears that the firm manufacture their own gas for consumption on the premises, and the apparatus for the purpose is situated at the southern entrance, in Chiswell street. One of the watchmen on duty observed a strong glare of light through the windows of the building containing the gasometer, and before an alarm could be given the whole of the place was in flames. The private engines of the establishment were got out, and messengers despatched to the various brigade stations. Several engines were soon on the spot; and a supply of water being obtained, the ravages of the fire were fortunately confined to the building in which it originated. The supposed cause of the accident is that the gasometer was over-charged, but how the ignition took place remains a mystery.

PROVINCIAL.

THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.—There has been a gradual and progressive resumption of labour by the weavers since our last. According to statements collected by the police on Friday, out of a total number of 6,884 weavers usually employed in 41 mills in the borough of Manchester, 4,873 were at work in the forenoon, and 5,051 in the afternoon of that day. The remainder, being now too few to offer any serious obstruction or annoyance to those who are in employment, and being consequently deprived of all hope of carrying their point, are rapidly returning to their looms. On Monday the whole of the mills, except where some peculiar circumstances exist, were in full work. In the surrounding districts all is quiet. With the single exception of the mills at Bolton, and a few cases where peculiar obstacles prevent a resumption of labour, all are in full operation. A supplement to Friday's *Gazette* announces that the special commission will not take place at Lancaster, but at Liverpool; the alteration in the place being probably from the greater number of prisoners committed for trial being confined in the gaols at Kirkdale and Salford.

TROOPS IN THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.—In connexion with the new military arrangements for the northern districts, Preston is to become the future dépôt of a large assemblage of troops. There have hitherto been no barracks in the town, and the troops now here, constituting about 130 rifles, are quartered in temporary barracks in a factory in Water street. A site of 25½ acres on Fulwood moor, the property of the Duchy of Lancaster, and in the centre of the former race course, has been secured by government for the erection of cavalry and infantry barracks, capable of containing 200 troops. The circumstances which have dictated this choice over the plan proposed for enlarging the barracks at Blackburn, in order to make that the northern dépôt for troops, appear to be the facility of their transport by railroad to the south, or to Ireland and Scotland, through the new port of Fleetwood. The inhabitants of Preston and Blackburn have both taken up the matter very warmly, and in the latter town a site of land was offered gratuitously for the erection of barracks. The decision was sealed chiefly from the opinion of the Duke of Wellington.

A gross case of neglect (and we understand by no means a solitary one) on the part of the medical officer of the Blaby union, Leicestershire (Mr Macaulay) was brought under the notice of the guardians last week. The sufferer was a woman of the name of Wignell, at Wigston, who was taken ill with a severe attack of cholera. Her son saw the union doctor on Wednesday, the 7th inst., but he not coming on Friday, the son got an order from the relieving officer, and gave it to the doctor that day. He did not see the woman, or send any medicine until Monday, and then ordered the son to be at Blaby by four o'clock, for the medicine; and when he arrived at home at five or six o'clock, he found his mother dying, indeed she was dead in a few minutes. The decision of the guardians is not yet known, but whatever that may be, scenes like this will not be allowed to pass without some notice; for several ratepayers of the above parish are determined that the poor shall have proper attention paid in cases of affliction.

Five paupers were sentenced to fourteen days' hard labour at Leicester lately, for "laughing, braying, and making a noise as if they were driving cattle." Such amusements are practised by legislators in the house of Commons with impunity.

So plentiful is money at the present moment, that bills are now discounted in Liverpool at three per cent., while in London good paper may, we believe, be discounted for two per cent.—*Liverpool Albion*.

On Sunday and Monday last were imported into Hull, from Ham-burgh, sixty-two large oxen, most of them of the Holstein breed, of large size and good condition. They were imported by Mr W. Brown, of Leicester.—*Yorkshire Gazette*.

The tariff is working. We have in Birmingham American hams, equal in every respect to the best English, at 5½d. per pound; and excellent pork at 4d. The prices of fresh meat cannot long stand under such a competition. In the south of Scotland we see the best beef, which not very long ago was 8d., has fallen to 5½d., and mutton and lamb to 4d. and 5d.—*Birmingham Journal*.

The graziers of North Lincolnshire and East Yorkshire are already suffering greatly from the importation of cattle into Hull from Germany and Holland, and it is feared that parties who have been in the habit of selling their stock at Barton and Hedon markets will find Peel's tariff an infliction of no ordinary character, as Hull is in more constant communication with the exporting countries than any other

port in England. The importation may never be sufficiently extensive to affect the country at large, but farmers in the immediate neighbourhood of sea-ports, or markets that have supplied them, must lose much of their value in consequence of the competition they will have to contend with.—*Stamford Mercury*.

Apples are selling at Loughborough at 2d. per peck: the very best are 4d. They are so plentiful that the growers give them to the pigs. [This place has a direct communication by railway with London, where the greengrocers are charging 6d. and 8d. per dozen for the same fruit!]

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.—We hear loud complaints of the depression which this interest, in common with the other great interests connected with trade, is now suffering. Freights from foreign ports, besides being scarce, are lower than they have ever been known before; while at home freights are not only low, but cargoes with difficulty made up. So scarce indeed is employment for shipping, even at rates which will scarcely pay freight and charges, that the number of ships laid up in Liverpool alone is beyond all past experience. In most of the docks there are unemployed vessels and vessels on sale. The west side is wholly filled with tiers of vessels on sale, and on the adjoining quay all traffic has ceased. We have heard it mentioned, that one firm alone has from 10,000 to 12,000 tons of shipping thus laid up.—*Liverpool Albion*.

STATE OF TRADE.—The Yorkshire markets, both for raw and manufactured goods, are as dull as at any former period of the year. The transactions are all of a very unsatisfactory description, and as a consequence of this continued depression, the number of unemployed operatives is again greatly on the increase. At Manchester everything is very gloomy and unsatisfactory. There is no shadow of anything like improvement. The prices current for cloth on Tuesday are not obtainable now, and as the prospect of shipment to America is cut off, it is likely that goods will again recede to the low point they were at seven weeks since. At Rochdale there was a brisk demand for flannels, and pieces have been eagerly bought up; but the manufacturers have not yet been able to obtain a decided advance in price. The wool market continues in much the same state as it has been for some time past. At Leicester there have been some considerable sales made within the last and present week, but at utterly unprofitable prices. There is no anxiety on the part of manufacturers to replace stock in cases where sales have been made. On the contrary, many houses, who have been moving large quantities of goods, are at the same time curtailing their manufacture. There is a general want of confidence in the continuance of any effective demand beyond another month, and business is not only smaller in amount as a whole, but far less profitable than in former years. Wools and yarns remain much the same.

GREAT FIRE AT LIVERPOOL.—On Friday morning a fire, the most extensive and destructive that has occurred in Liverpool for years past, broke out in a paint manufactory and oil warehouse in Paisley street, which is a small street leading from Great Howard street to Bath street. It is surrounded by warehouses and sheds used for bonded goods, and filled with produce to the top. From the inflammable nature of the materials, and a stiff breeze from the N.W. blowing at the time, the fire spread with inconceivable rapidity, extending up to the front of Great Howard street, and across Formby street, and up to Neptune street, covering an extent of two acres of ground. Fifteen warehouses of the first class, most of them five stories high, besides cart houses, stables, a row of about sixteen houses, and a large mass of property of various descriptions, have been consumed with their contents; amongst which was a very large quantity of cotton. The value of the buildings destroyed is estimated at about £40,000; and the property contained in them is said to have been worth half a million sterling. Throughout the day the fire continued to rage with awful violence, defying every effort to check its progress, the heat being so intense as to prevent approach within working distance. Towards four o'clock, every building contiguous being destroyed, it abated. Several fatal accidents have occurred. Seventeen men have been carried to the hospital, three or four of whom are since dead; and, probably, eighteen to twenty more are buried under the burning piles, together with one of the engines. So far as it is yet known, only one police officer (Hodgson) has lost his life. Several others were injured. Mr Superintendent Riding had his ankle-bone broken. Another officer had his wrist dislocated. The origin of the fire is involved in mystery. One account represents the calamity to have been caused by sparks of fire from the chimney of a dwelling house in Stewart street, falling into the oil yard of Mr Peniston, Crompton street, where, as will be seen, it commenced; while another account attributes it to the boiling of oil, during the night, on his premises. Many days must elapse before anything like the precise amount of loss, either of property or life, can be ascertained.

The London and Birmingham railway was rendered impassable for some hours, on Saturday last, near Roade, by the embankment giving way, in consequence of the late heavy showers of rain having completely saturated the earth. The down train from London, on reaching Wolverton, was obliged to remain until the passengers by the York train had walked to that station, when it returned with them, and those from London walked from Wolverton to Roade. The train that left London at half-past one o'clock for Birmingham had to exchange passengers with the four o'clock up train from Rugby, which should have been in at seven o'clock, but did not get in till half-past nine. The line for the up train was cleared to allow it to come up, after two hours' delay, but the down line will not be cleared for some days to come. All the trains were about two hours later than usual. A vast number of hands are employed in repairing the damage.

The town of Aberystwith has been visited by a terrific flood. A noise was heard resembling that of distant thunder, and the inhabitants were soon apprised of the cause by a tremendous body of water rolling several feet above the waters of the river Rhydoli, carrying with it carts, wheelbarrows, forks, rakes, and various implements of husbandry. On its reaching the harbour, the force was so powerful as to raise the shipping which were lying a-ground, and dash them on each other with such fury as to smash the masts, yards, and bowsprits of several of them to splinters; others sunk to their anchors, and were nearly covered; several boats were instantly dashed to the bottom

and hurled to the ocean. The water continued to increase for upwards of two hours, stripping the fields adjoining the bed of the river of hay, wheat, oats, and barley. Although the wind was blowing west, and a tremendous heavy sea, yet the waters of the river forced the ocean back to the apparent distance of a mile, filling the bay with fresh water; and for upwards of eight hours no amalgamation of the fresh and briny elements took place, the bay remaining as free from salt as if it had been a mountain lake.

MURDER.—On Saturday the village of Hoagley, near Oakham, was thrown into a state of excitement and horror at the discovery of a murder of the most atrocious description. For some time past an old man, named Reynolds, who was supposed to have been a farmer in the neighbourhood, had resided in the village. His house was observed for several days to have been closed; at length it was thought advisable to enter it, when the poor old man was discovered on the floor of his bed-room literally soaked in his blood. His face was so beaten as almost to defy recognition, and numerous articles of clothing were lying about the floor.

Mr Henry Vincent, last week, delivered a lecture on temperance in Nelson street chapel, Newcastle, the like of which, for eloquence and power, has seldom been heard in that district. The place was crowded, and the audience highly delighted.

NEWS FOR SIR ROBERT PEELE.—A friend of ours, who is filling up schedules under the income tax, gratuitously, stated to us yesterday, that he had been engaged filling up schedules uninterruptedly from ten, A.M. to four P.M., and that during that time the returns were made under 150% per annum, except in three instances. The returns were at least a hundred in number, and principally those of tradesmen.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

CHIMNEY SWEEPERS.—CAUTION.—A case was heard at the police office, Liverpool, last week, on a double information laid against a master sweep, for having allowed a boy to go up a chimney, and against a householder for employing the same. They were both convicted; and the magistrate, in passing sentence, said that it was not generally understood that by the late act both the sweep and the parties who occupied the house were liable to a fine of not less than 5l., and not exceeding 10l., or one month's imprisonment in default, for allowing a boy under twenty-one years of age to sweep a chimney.

Sir Matthew Wood, Bart., M.P., has purchased the extensive property in Cheltenham formerly belonging to the late Jemmy Wood, on which he intends to make great improvements.

The Worcester musical festival took place last week. The band and chorus numbered upwards of 300 performers, and 1,300 persons attended. The collections after the festival amounted to 80% more than on former occasions.

About 2,500% have been realised on the occasion of the Preston Guild, which, after payment of all expenses, leaves a surplus of 300% to be devoted to the charities of the town.

In Broadgate, one of the widest streets of Lincoln, the centre of the street, for all the length nearly, is getting covered with grass.

IRELAND.

The Archbishop of Dublin, and the Bishops of Down, Ferns, and Cloynde, are the Irish representative bishops in the ensuing session of parliament.

The *Morning Chronicle* says it is stated that an arrangement is in progress by which the recorder, Mr F. Shaw, is to retire from the representation of the University, in order to make room for the Solicitor-General. The Recorder, it is said, is to obtain the office of Chief Remembrancer of the Exchequer, in room of Mr Blake, whose full period of service has expired; and that Mr Litton is to succeed the Recorder.

The harvest is now nearly all gathered in throughout Ireland, and according to all concurrent opinions a more abundant one has not been for the last 20 years. At the Limerick market on Friday, there was the largest influx of oats ever remembered after any harvest, and in general the samples are described as of superior quality. The entire quantity, comprising at least 6,000 barrels, was purchased freely at an average of 7½d. to 7½d. per stone.

AN EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS.—The *Clare Journal*, in announcing the arrival of Colonel Wyndham at his estates in that county, observes that the gallant proprietor has been the first to establish a good precedent for other landlords, by making considerable reductions in his rents, so as to correspond with the reduced value of agricultural produce and live stock, which has been the necessary consequence of the operation of the new tariff.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, September 28.

Intelligence arrived this morning of a second outbreak of the fire at Liverpool, on Monday night, which has occasioned a great increase of damage. The fire was discovered raging at the lower end of Compton street (the northern boundary of the great fire). The premises ignited were a small house and extensive yard behind, and Devan's marine store adjoining; and also some premises occupied by a carter named Bushell, who had several horses in the stables behind. The buildings being almost wholly of wood, the flames gained a rapid head, and extended speedily over a frontage to the street of above 25 yards. Two or three of the horses and some pigs were got out, but several were burned to death. Just above, in the same row, was a double cotton shed, which was for some time in great danger, but Superintendent Leveret had the door burst open, and got the fire extinguished just in time to save it. It was several hours before the fire was subdued, and great fears are entertained of still further destruction. The amount of damage is now estimated at £700,000.

Accounts from Scotland state that an attempt was made by the colliers on Saturday, at Newbattle, in Mid Lothian, to rescue some prisoners from the police, when two constables were nearly killed. The military were dispatched to the spot, and tranquillity was speedily restored.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat is moderate, consisting of about 2,000 quarters; of foreign there are nearly 30,000 quarters in the market. Prices are about the same as on Monday.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"James Humphrys" will see by a notice below that the word "sectarianism," in "Query's" letter of last week, was a misprint for "sacramentarianism."

"Welshman." A deacon has no valid *legal* objection to serve as churchwarden.

"An Admirer." Thanks for the hint—perhaps he would work it out.

"An Elector of the Borough of Stroud" next week.

"S. H. E." Our article on the same subject was in type before his letter came to hand.

ERRATUM.—In the letter, signed "Query," inserted in our last, for *sectarianism*, in the first line, read *sacramentarianism*.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1842.

SUMMARY.

A GENTLEMAN much accustomed to travel, and fond of comfort by the wayside, had occasion lately to perform a journey in Belgium. He was to go by railway, which vulgar mode of conveyance he had not yet tried. Accordingly, he packed up a hamper of eatables, put a bottle of superior sherry in his Macintosh pocket, and started early one morning for the station. His first mortification was, that the regulations of "the board" did not allow him to take care of his own baggage. His basket was taken from him, and consigned to the guard. Unable to digest his disappointment with becoming ease, he bethought himself of assisting it with the sherry. He therefore unkenneled it—when lo! he was bereft of his corkscrew. This, however, was a defeat which might be remedied at the next station. The train stopped—the gentleman let down the sash—and as soon as he could get the ear of a porter, he thus addressed him, "Would you have the kindness"—whizz! fizz! went the engine, and before he could finish his sentence they were off. At the next station the gentleman sunk his politeness, popped his head out of the window, and cried, "A corkscrew, if you please"—whizz! fizz! went the engine again, and again he was balked. In the end our hero reached his destination without having tasted his sherry, and has ever since declaimed against the unreasonable haste of railroad traveling.

Our friend the *Patriot*, who occasionally alludes to us, but never by name, reminds us strongly of this same gentleman. The complete suffrage principle has been under discussion now, about twelve months. The *Patriot* once snarled at it, but took no further part in the business. The movement, however, made head so rapidly that the *Patriot* was compelled to take his seat or be left behind. But then he meant to take things easily. He has just opened his columns for a discussion of the principle, when—whizz! out comes the Birmingham council with a proposal to call a conference to settle details. This is too much for our aristocratic friend—and accordingly we have a long article expressive of disgust at the overwhelming conceit of a public body, which coolly proposes to go into committee on the bill, the principles of which have only come under discussion in the *Patriot*, about a month since. Our friend must be a little quicker, and keep a sharper look-out, or by the time he gets to an examination of the details, the question will be, "That this bill do now pass." It is mortifying to be always "a day after the fair." With newspapers as with men,

"There is a tide in the affairs of men
Which taken at the flood leads on to fortune;
Neglected, all the voyage of their lives
Is bound in shallows and in miseries."

Mr Sturge is on his way to the Edinburgh banquet, and is visiting some of the more important towns on the road. His reception is, everywhere, of the most cheering character; so cheering, as to have thrown the whigs into a state of alarm. The *Leeds Mercury* has opened fire in grand style—the *Morning Chronicle* and the *Examiner* have echoed his report. But we have noticed this, at length, in another column.

Save the destructive fire at Liverpool, by which property to the amount of half a million has been consumed, we have literally no news to sum up. The week which has turned out so many notable editorial articles, has been barren of events. The Queen is at home; legislators are abroad "among the heather;" the turn-outs are pretty well at an end; rainy weather has set in; and our political almanack reads thus—"Expect dull times about this season."

WHIG WHISPERERS.

WHIG politics (for whig principles, we believe, there are none) appear to us to exert a peculiarly unhappy influence upon character. The school, at least in its modern state, is but an indifferent one for the inculcation of sound morals. To all manliness of spirit it is a stranger. For every species of generosity, it breathes contempt. Its thorough-bred partisans, whether of the senate or the press, acquire an inveterate habit of meanness. Whiggism is a pettifoggery, fibbing, filching, whispering thing. Whatever is noble in human nature it invariably spoils. Toryism is a rigorous winter, which drives whatever truth and virtue there is down to the roots of society. Whiggism is an uncertain spring—now drawing out into bud, by gleams of sunshine, the liberal principles which circulate in our social system, then nipping them with the blight of a

bleak east wind. The first, no one can mistake—the last perpetually deludes. Toryism is the highwayman, who presents his weapon and demands your purse. Whiggism is one of the swell-mob who, under cover of obliging a passenger, thrusts upon him a spurious article, and cheats him of his cash. In the one, you may sometimes discover a redeeming trait; in the other—never. It is the child of compromise—and skulking is its vocation.

The common practices of the whig press offer us innumerable illustrations. There is no honesty, no openness about it. Its habits are not masculine. It has neither the courage to renounce great principles, nor the frankness to admit them. It goes about belying its own professions by all sorts of petty tricks. It will not lie outright, but sneakily fibs—does not publicly calumniate, but artfully slanders. It is an adept at inuendo. It worms itself into confidence by tickling the most contemptible prejudices. Now by suppression, then by exaggeration; here by the *nonchalant* exhibition of some trifling specimen of folly, there by cunning allusions, meant to leave a false impression on the reader's mind—in one word, by all that shuffling, chicanery, fraud, misrepresentation, perversion, evasion, immorality, which go under the name of *tact*, it aims to nibble away what it is afraid to grapple with, and is unable to destroy.

In the *Leeds Mercury* of Saturday last, we meet with a full exemplification of the foregoing remarks. It is an article occupying three columns, under the head of "Universal or Complete Suffrage. Intended National Conference at Birmingham." Its evident object is to counteract any influence which Mr Sturge's visit to the north may exert upon electors. It is written in a tone of seeming moderation. It deals out to him, professedly at least, a considerable measure of respect. It bears upon it all the superficial marks of a candid examination of his position. It takes the shape of a cool, calm, argumentative view of the Complete Suffrage Union, its principles and its recent proceedings. And yet it would be difficult to find disingenuousness more studied, trickery more calculating, and, what we call, logical immorality more lamentable, in any effusion of the public press, whig or tory.

Our remarks upon this article we shall endeavour to reduce to some method—although the production which calls them forth is as rambling as it is lengthy. This will at all events shorten our labour, and render our remarks somewhat more intelligible to our readers. We shall deal first with those insinuations which affect the grounds upon which complete suffrage rests—then with those allusions which are intended to fix upon it unmerited obloquy—we shall afterwards notice the charges which are designed to convict its advocates of inconsistency—and merely glance at the general character of the whole.

The *Leeds Mercury* deals pretty largely in personal observations upon Mr Sturge. Now, we are not about to object to this. The character, the abilities, the failings, and especially the public acts of a leader of a great political movement, we admit to be fairly open to criticism. Mr Sturge, we imagine, would be the last man to care for such a sifting. What we complain of in the *Leeds Mercury* is an attempt, under cover of this investigation, to shift the basis of complete suffrage, and to misrepresent it as resting, not upon the ground of solid reason, but upon that of Mr Sturge's authority. We need quote one passage only in illustration of this. "Mr Joseph Sturge is a thoroughly honest man, religious, generous, and humane; he has the strongest love of justice, and hatred of injustice, and he has courage enough to make him a martyr. But with these great and excellent qualities Mr Sturge does not combine, so far as we have ever been able to discern, that soundness of judgment or that mental capacity which should entitle his opinions to much deference." Now it is not our intention to discuss the truth, or otherwise, of this conclusion. What we urge is this—that the doctrines of complete suffrage have never yet been backed by an appeal to authority, however respectable. Were Mr Sturge an idiot, it would not affect their soundness. The mental incapacity with which he is charged touches not the truth of the principles he may happen to hold. Of those principles Mr Sturge never professed to be the discoverer. He has never thrust them upon his fellow-countrymen by an appeal to his authority. The excellence of his character has undoubtedly attracted towards them an attention, and secured for them an impartial hearing, which else they would have wanted. But they have fought their way into public esteem by sheer argumentation. They have invariably courted investigation. They have, under his leadership, uniformly addressed themselves to the cool reason of men. Mr Sturge bids no man adopt them because they are his. He asks no deference for his opinions beyond their demonstrable soundness. Complete suffrage rests upon reasons, not upon names—upon truths, not upon men—and the attempt to move it from the one basis to the other—silence in respect of arguments which have been urged in its favour, and slight put upon authority which has not been pleaded in its behalf—is a specimen of that whig *tact* to which we have above adverted.

The *Leeds Mercury* carries this want of ingenuousness much further. Anxious as it is to show that Mr Sturge's moral reputation is no sufficient guarantee for the truth of his principles, and thus to leave upon the mind of the reader an impression that this is their main prop, it scruples not, by artful allusions, to parade in association with them, reputation of a more questionable kind, with a view to push prejudice in an opposite direction. It charges the Complete Suffrage Union with a want of manliness and honesty in its choice of a title, and says its motive for this choice was no doubt a desire to escape the odium which the advocates of *universal* suffrage and of the charter had brought upon their cause. Be it so. Granted, that the Union wisely determined upon suppressing all that was extraneous and adventitious, with a view to concentrate unbiased and undivided attention upon the principles themselves—

admitted, that in their anxiety to offer sound food to a squeamish patient, they set aside a soiled dish, and used clean crockery—what then? Does manliness consist in wrapping up truth in dirty paper? or honesty, in sending principles into the world branded, whether deservedly or undeservedly, with an odious name? The *Leeds Mercury*, we believe, adopts the sentiments of the independent dissenters. Why does not the *Leeds Mercury* stick to the name of Brownist? The notion is preposterous. The Union seeks to separate truth from associations which heretofore enveloped it in a mist. The *Leeds Mercury* does what it can to prevent the success of this common-sense expedient—proves that complete suffrage is what formerly went by the name of universal suffrage—that the principles of the Union are identical with those of the charter—that its projected conference is the child of the national convention of 1840—that its policy is precisely what Feargus O'Connor long ago recommended—and that Mr Vincent, one of its lecturers, was once imprisoned for sedition. What are we to say to all this? Why these allusions? Why this tenacious clinging to old names, this perpetual reference to bye-gone events? The *Leeds Mercury* has unconsciously let it out. It is that the Union may not escape the odium which it declares former advocates "brought upon their cause." Well! and when all that odium is heaped upon it—when, by means such as these, complete suffrage shall be made to stink in the nostrils of the community—when, by playing towards certain political principles, the part which the historian Gibbon too successfully performed towards Christianity, those principles shall have become identified with every folly and every crime which has been perpetrated in their name—what will the *Mercury* have to boast of? Why, that it has served its party more devotedly than truth, and has enacted the whig far more efficiently than the Christian.

The inconsistencies with which this organ charges the Union, are some of them curious; some deserving of a much severer designation. It laughs at the "Brummagem constitution-mongers," upon whose work, it says, "it must not be too critical," for not recognising in its plan for the choice of the "national conference," the principle of "equal electoral districts," which it knows to be altogether impracticable on an *impromptu* occasion. It accuses them of "an intolerant and dragooning spirit," for calling upon municipal electors "to adopt immediate measures for securing the election of such men ONLY to represent them in their local governments, as are known to be favourable to the principle of complete suffrage." The course here recommended may be expedient or not, but in what its intolerance consists, we are at a loss to discover. We must say it is very unlike the covert suggestion made by the *Leeds Mercury*, to Mr O'Connor, in the following passage:—"Unless Mr Feargus O'Connor be a member of the 'national conference' next December, he will be robbed of his due—and, he in turn will take good care that the conference shall have precious little respect for the genuine, old-original, whole-hog, name-and-all 'chartists.'" If ever the Union mean to interfere with the liberties of others, we trust they will do it manfully, and in their own name, and not attempt, by a sneaking suggestion, to engage others in doing what themselves dare not avowedly recommend. But let this pass—this thorough-bred whiggery. What is this plan of the council, which stirs up so much bile? Does it curtail any man's freedom of action? No! Force any vote? No! Threaten any evil? No! It simply says, "You who believe in complete suffrage, vote only for one who can fairly represent your opinions." *Hinc illæ lacrymæ.* This is where the shoe pinches. The plan gets rid of whig dictation—and laughs at the whig bugbear of voting short of our principles for the sake of keeping out the Tories. By means of this bugbear, the whigs, a small body in point of numbers, have ridden, for many years past, the liberal party; and all measures which would succeed in displacing them, and throwing them upon their own resources, are denounced as evincing "an intolerant and dragooning spirit."

The next inconsistency we must allow the *Leeds Mercury* to introduce to our readers in its own inimitable style—capitals, italics, and all.

"THERE is one other object of the 'National Conference' which altogether baffles our comprehension. At the end of the 8th proposition in the address of the 'Council,' it is said that the 'Conference' is 'to determine the best legal and constitutional means for,' 'by every just and virtuous means, PREPARING the People for the proper exercise of their political and social rights!'" We do not criticise the composition; but, in the name of 'Complete Suffrage' and JOSEPH STURGE, we demand, what this alarming passage can mean. 'PREPARING the People for the proper exercise of their political and social rights!' 'PREPARING' them, we say! Treason! Treason against Complete Suffrage! Can the atrocious idea be for an instant admitted, that 'the people' are NOT 'PREPARED?' Thought pregnant with fatal consequences! What! NOT 'prepared' 'for the proper exercise of their political and social rights!' Then it would follow that they are NOT 'prepared' to elect representatives to the 'National Conference!' NOT 'prepared!' Then here is the whole cause of 'Complete Suffrage' knocked on the head—brained—sacrificed, and that by its own friends! For surely no man of sense would propose to give the franchise to those whom he himself admitted NOT to be 'prepared' for it. 'PREPARING the People for the proper exercise of their political and social rights!' How would you prepare them? 'By every just and virtuous means,' says the Address. But who can interpret this? Does it mean by training the people to be 'just and virtuous?' Then it implies great defect at present in justice and virtue. Then it implies, too, that men should be morally qualified, or, as the Address says, 'prepared for the proper exercise of their political and social rights;' and, if not thus 'prepared,' that they would be likely to exercise those 'rights' improperly! O fatal, fatal admission!

"Well," as Prince Henry says to Falstaff, "breathe awhile, and then to it again, and when thou hast tired thyself—mark now, how

* The passage stands thus in the Address of the Council:—"8. To determine the best legal and constitutional means for energetically and peaceably promoting the above objects; for checking all kinds of violence and commotion by which the enemy triumphs; for disseminating sound political knowledge, for spreading the principles of sobriety, peace, and toleration throughout the country; and by every just and virtuous means preparing the people for the proper exercise of their political and social rights."

plain a tale shall put you down." The *Leeds Mercury* should be discreet enough not to holloa before it is out of the wood. It is not without some compunction that we undertake to set him right, so hearty is his chuckle, so uproarious his mirth. But the truth must be told. Yes! the Council of the Union wish, by the dissemination of sound political knowledge, by spreading the principles of sobriety, peace, and toleration throughout the country, and by every just and virtuous means, to prepare the people for the proper exercise of their political and social rights." And, we may add, their efforts are equally needed to assist those who have them, as to prepare those who have them not. Even among the present limited constituency, there are thousands who, whether from want of information or of principle, exercise their rights improperly. The Anti-corn-law League by its lecturers and its publications, the *Leeds Mercury* by its weekly effusions, and every other political association and political organ, labours to remedy this defect. The work of teaching and training will ever have to go on, for population is perpetually shifting. But what then? Must the present constituency be deprived of the franchise because it needs to be instructed how to exercise it most advantageously? Some men abuse civil liberty. Is civil liberty therefore to be denied a whole nation? Many employ their property to the detriment of the state. Is there any inconsistency in advocating the rights of property, and labouring to secure at the same time their proper exercise? Aye! but the Council proposes to prepare the people. Yes! prepare them, for they have not yet come into possession of what they may fairly claim—the Council proposes to do with the constituency *in posse*, what all political parties are aiming to do with the constituency *in esse*—not to exclude them from their own, but to persuade them to use it, when they shall acquire it, justly and virtuously—not to commit a positive injustice to prevent others from doing an imagined one, but to give them what they are entitled to, and by moral means seek to direct them in the rational use of it. And this method, we may venture to remind the *Leeds Mercury*, has the sanction of the very highest analogy. Thus men are dealt with by the Supreme Governor, who gives to every man the attributes of human nature, and then lays before them those counsels which are fitted to secure the proper employment of them. On the plan of the *Leeds Mercury*, which would distribute political rights according to intellectual and moral fitness, who, we ask, is to be the judge, and where the ultimate appeal? The test of qualification, in such case, must shift with the intelligence and morality of the age; and men must be finally admitted to the franchise according to the system of political economy they may happen to adopt. The *Leeds Mercury*, we presume, will scarcely approve of the parliament which the present constituency has selected, or contend that it is a fair exemplification of a proper exercise of political rights. Now, what would the *Leeds Mercury* do? Instruct the electors, or disfranchise the whole body? Its answer will vindicate the council from the charge of inconsistency.

We have done. Other topics we should like to have noticed, but we have already far exceeded convenient limits. They are, however, very much of a piece with those already considered. The article is elaborately written, and appears in a paper of high character and extensive circulation. This must be our apology for devoting to it so much space. We have not even glanced at the summary of arguments against complete suffrage with which it terminates. Nor do we intend. Some of them we combated when they appeared singly in the *Mercury*. Our refutations were passed over in silence; and the objections now, after a long interval, appear again as though they had never been disputed. Several of them are glaringly contradictory, one of another. Some of them are mere appeals to the prejudices of the middle classes; and all of them involve the idea, that they who chance to have political power, are not only *de facto* but *de jure*, the sovereign arbiters of the people's rights. This summary we could have safely left to tell its own tale. It is to the whispering, insinuating character of the whole piece, we object, not without indignation—to its unmanliness—its attempts to raise about the whole question the dust of prejudice—its artifices dressed up in candour—its vile suggestions, framed to keep asunder parties already divided, and to set agoing a malignant policy—against these we enter our solemn protest.

THE VARIATIONS OF THE TIMES.

THE writer in "the leading journal of Europe" who does the articles against the complete suffrage movement, has, after an interval of a fortnight, returned to his vocation. We must give him credit for perseverance, although we are unable to congratulate him upon his success. His daring fancy has not as yet succeeded in penetrating into any new and untried region of invective. We hope, however, he will not be discouraged. Exercise may even yet strengthen his powers of invention, and assiduous care may even yet rust off his wit. Duller minds than his have heretofore, by unwearied diligence, rubbed themselves, if not into shining splendour, at all events into a polish which made them passable. If the circle of his ideas is somewhat limited, frequent use may yet enable him to travel the unvarying round with graceful step. The substitution, in the present article, of "these fellows," for "these scoundrels," is a hopeful sign of future progress. True, this is about the only variation we detect of the first melody—the *thema* of this great composer. We cannot say much, however, for its originality. It is an expression of contempt, which, like that which it has displaced, may be picked up in very vulgar places—and as the application of it is easy, its use has seldom been held to denote much ingenuity, or peculiar vigour.

In all other respects the effusion of Thursday last is but a repetition of former ideas. The writer has not bored his way into any new vein of thought. The dish which he sets before us is the same

dish set off with the same garnish. "No one but a fool believes in Henry Vincent and Joseph Sturge;" and, speaking of the last address of the Union, the monotonous scribe hardly knows which most to admire, "the consummate impudence of the thing, or its heartless cruelty." So much for the garniture. The solid meat of the article, the doctrines propounded in it, may be set down as identically the same. The people do not care to possess the franchise (if so, we should think Joseph Sturge might be safely let alone); the possession of it, if they had it to-morrow, would not alter their condition one jot or one tittle; and then comes over again that curious specimen of reasoning to which we have before adverted, and which we must now insert, as it may probably be served up in the *Times* as often as this writer's turn comes round.

"Is there a man of sense in the three kingdoms, be he tory, whig, radical, or chartist, who does not know—know for certain—that if the electoral franchise is to be exercised honestly, its possession would be, *not* a good to its owner, but a good to the public? If it is to be a means of gratifying the caprice or avarice, or love of power and private friendship, of the possessor, it is not a good to the public. If it is exercised conscientiously for the public good, the owner has, indeed, the pleasure of having done right; but we may depend upon it that the duty will be to himself a difficult one. It will be no such unmixed pleasure or tangible gain. And, now, can it be conceived that these fellows band together for the mere purpose of thrusting upon others, or acquiring for themselves, the exercise of a difficult and onerous duty? Is it not palpable that they must hold the thing out, and that knowingly, in a very different light? Do they not notoriously hold it out as a means of bettering a man's condition? and is not this either a lie—and a wilful one?—or is it not a *corrupt* exercise of the franchise which they have in view? Or, again, if the duty and privilege which they seek were really ever so desirable, is it likely that it could, or would, be exercised conscientiously, or to the advantage either of themselves or the community, by persons who have, we do not say only *sought* out its responsibilities, but who have sought them out at the expense of peace, at the violation of order, and at the risk even of infringing the laws of their country?"

"Its possession would *not* be a good to the owner, but a good to the public." Who this public may be, as distinct from the individuals who compose it, the *Times* does not inform us. We believe it has been generally held that what is beneficial for the whole body, is beneficial, in the main, for its constituent members. If, for example, such an alteration of our commercial laws as the *Times* advocated but two days before, would be a national advantage, we imagine it would be so because those who compose the nation would reap the wholesome fruits of it. To desire power whereby, at the expense of the community, we may compass private and selfish ends, is unquestionably a proof that we are disqualified from holding it; and, therefore, out of the mouth of its own organ, the aristocracy of this country have received sentence of condemnation. But whence has the *Times* gathered its maxim, that the public good cannot be the object of legitimate desire to any man who hopes to share it? If by bettering the public we better ourselves, who happen to be a fraction of the public—if by breaking down the small but powerful faction which has sucked the very hearts' blood of our country, we can release commerce from its gripe, and adjust its due proportion of taxation to its shoulders, and thus bring about a general revival of trade, in which our individual interests are staked, why must we, forsooth, be charged with corrupt motives? What difference is there in this respect between the man who seeks to get the franchise, and him who desires to retain a monopoly of it?

We sincerely beg pardon of our readers, however, for insulting their common sense by even suggesting the obvious answer to this balderdash. We are not so much surprised that such trash is written, as we are that "the leading journal of Europe" can stoop to give it currency. If the *Times* really means, as obviously it does, to contest the ground with this new movement, let us have something a trifle above this. Phrases which are out of place anywhere but in the letters of a chambermaid—twaddle which, but for those phrases, would be perfectly insipid—random assertions which do not even bear out the purpose of the writer—reasonings which seem to be conducted on the principle that they will never meet the eye of reason—and all done up in a vulgar pomposity of pretension, such as monarchs at minor theatres commonly exhibit to most advantage—can hardly be considered as the most suitable line of defence against a formidable aggression upon the aristocracy. The task of staying the tide of popular opinion is too hard for this feeble but vain-glorious Canute. He may have his flatterers, as had the Anglo-Dane, but, surely, they have never complimented him on his power.

THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONS—THE DUTY OF JURYMEN.

IN the commission about to open for the trial of political and other offenders, there is much suggestive of grave and serious reflection. On the causes in which they have originated, we have frequently commented in no measured terms. We have solemnly recorded our opinion, that it is an indelible stain upon the history of the present century, that in an opulent, nay, an over-opulent country like England, hundreds of thousands of her industrial population should have been goaded by the pressure of physical want into acts of insurrectionary violence; exhibiting a discontent, not less just than profound, with their own condition, and the selfish institutions which make their toil profitless, and mar their best-directed industry. The grounds of this opinion, which are, alas! too familiar to our readers, we shall not now repeat; but shall at once address ourselves to this last evidence afforded by the government, that in spite of the powerful appeals which have been made to it, and the startling truths to which it has been compelled to listen, it is still rather bent upon repressing effects than removing causes. Punishment is indeed the sole end and aim of the special commissions. There is nothing in them reformatory; their entire apparatus is penal. The very government which supports

the monopolies, by the havoc of which the labourer has been driven to rebel against constituted authority, comes forward promptly, and ostentatiously, to vindicate the offended majesty of the law, however indifferent to the outraged feelings of humanity. By the oppressive system of one-sided legislation, of which Sir Robert Peel's cabinet is the avowed representative, the vast majority of the operative classes, agricultural and manufacturing, are in a state of fearful destitution; and when the outward symptoms of this melancholy fact become so prominent as to thrust themselves before the eye of the most callous observer, Sir Robert Peel, *par excellence* the greatest statesman of his age, can find no more statesmanlike method of dealing with a semi-starving population, than the "good old plan" of military and legal coercion—riot acts and regiments of dragoons, police constables and special commissions. "Prevention is better than cure," used to be a maxim of moral as well as physiological value; but Sir Robert Peel would change our proverbs, if not our laws, and would unflinchingly teach us that punishment is better than either prevention or cure.

These special commissions have, then, been issued in pursuance of the oligarchical system we are striving to overthrow. Their particular composition does not challenge either approbation or confidence. Lord Abinger and Sir Nicholas Tindal are not the men to regard with a lenient eye the peculiar offences, at the trial of which they are instructed to preside. The one is a petulant partisan of aristocratic privileges, and the other a devout believer in the right divine of kings, and the duty of passive obedience in their subjects. However uprightly the law may be administered by these judges, we may rest assured that it will also be administered with literal strictness, perhaps even with conscientious severity. But, happily, a special commission cannot be worked by judges alone. There are other and freer elements in its composition. Judges, magistrates, and learned serjeants, are the only parties directly put in motion by the Queen's authority; but they must summon to their assistance a jury of honest and unbiased men. And upon the jury do we rely to defeat whatever arbitrary intentions the government has in view, and to soften the asperities of the law where there is no possibility of avoiding its infliction.

Trial by jury is ordinarily styled the palladium of English liberty; and although there are instances in which this palladium has grievously failed those who have trusted to it, yet there are also illustrious examples of the moral powers this institution can put forth against legal tyranny. The present is an occasion when jurymen will be called upon to stand between the law and the people; and accordingly as they shall act with independence or servility will they merit the gratitude or the contempt of their countrymen.

In order the better to understand the responsibility of jurymen at the approaching judicial investigations, we will make a threefold division of the offences which will come within their cognisance.

The first class will comprise those unfortunate men who are charged with violence and actual outrage; the second, those who have attended at riotous meetings without being engaged in rioting themselves; and the third, those who are accused of seditious conspiracy, or using seditious and inflammatory language.

Of the first class we shall only say, as we have said before, that, however we may, and do compassionate them, we are yet not disposed to justify their proceedings, either morally or legally. The sole palliation we can urge in respect of them is the provocation they have received; and we would inculcate a keen and wholesome suspicion of the testimony of the police, who themselves have been guilty of the most glaring outrages, and who will not scruple to resort to dishonourable means for the purpose of convicting those whom they have accused. Towards the second class we do not think it possible to exercise too much forbearance. We were disgusted at the indiscriminate manner in which similar offenders were advised to plead guilty at the York assizes, when, as it seemed to us, there was in many instances no guilt whatever to acknowledge. To be present at a riotous meeting is not an offence, unless clearly connected with a riotous intention. We know not what can be the evidence of such intention, except some overt act. And to insist on the proof of an overt act, or to acquit unless such an act be proved, we respectfully submit to be the duty of an impartial jury.

The third class of offences is, however, that which will demand from the jury the greatest independence of thought and action. We have already (No. 71.) stated our views of the law of sedition, at such length as to preclude the necessity of again entering upon the subject. The gist of our argument was, that there is law enough in England to crush freedom of discussion, oral or written, as effectually as would the establishment of a censorship, or the absolute prohibition of public meetings; and the only reason the law is not fully carried out by the government, is that public opinion is too enlightened and too strong to permit such an infraction of our liberties. In the approaching trials for sedition the jury should consider themselves the assertors of this enlightened public opinion, and the guardians of freedom of discussion from the unholy touch of legal interpretation. The judges will be eager to convict. All judges are, and ever have been, where political offenders are concerned. But the jury should not implicitly rely upon judicial dicta, however oracularly delivered. They should rather ask themselves, candidly and generously, whether the accused was not availing himself of an undoubted right, in criticising the acts, or denouncing the principles of government; and if betrayed into extravagance of expression, whether they will for such a venial offence consign him to the certain penalty of heavy fine and long imprisonment. The judge and jury are in this relation—the former will be able to quote precedent without stint to prove that the slightest licence of speech is a violation of law; it is for the latter to reject the subtle and contracted precedents of law, in favour of the loftier principles of justice.

We deem it well to remind the public of the sort of precedents of which the law can boast. In 1793, John Frost, a highly respectable solicitor, was indicted for maliciously, unlawfully, wickedly, and seditiously saying (such is the doggel of the law)—“I see no reason why any man should not be on a footing of equality with another—it is every man's birthright.” Being asked what he meant by equality, he replied, “Why, no kings;” and, being further asked whether he meant no kings in this country, he said, “Yes—no king; the constitution of this country is a very bad one.” He was found guilty, imprisoned for six months, set in the pillory, held to bail, himself in £500 and two sureties of £100, and struck off the rolls as an attorney. Such is one legal precedent; we cannot resist quoting another. In the same year, William Hodgson was indicted for seditious expressions. It appears the defendant, in the London Coffee house, took up a newspaper, from which he read aloud the defeat of the Dutch, and then added in a loud voice, “I wish the Duke of York and his army were either sent home or to the d—l;” and afterwards he gave as a toast, “The French republic or constitution.” Whereupon all the gentlemen in the room rose and drank the King's health, and William Hodgson stood up and repeated his obnoxious toast. For this apparent frolic, and we have given our readers the whole particulars, William Hodgson was imprisoned for two years, fined two hundred pounds, and held to bail. The language used in these two cases, perfectly innocent as we hold it to be, is of extreme violence compared with that for which the liberty of scores of men is now periled, in Lancashire and Staffordshire; and we will not believe that those of our fellow-citizens, upon whom the office of jurymen will soon devolve, are prepared to evince the complete disregard which these cases testify, of every rule of conduct which should guide the members of a free community.

Having adduced examples of legal precedent, countervailing moral right, we should not withhold others in which the independence of jurymen has materially subverted the progress of civil liberty. The juries who, in 1770, when Mr Woodfall was indicted for the publication of Junius's letter to the King, and in 1784, when the Dean of Saint Asaph was tried for disseminating Sir William Jones's celebrated pamphlet on the “Principles of Government,” returned verdicts amounting to an actual acquittal, were mainly instrumental in making that important alteration in the law of libel, which transferred the question as to the libelous nature of a publication, from the judge who formerly entertained it, to the jury who now entertain it; and when Sir John Scott arraigned Hardy, Thelwall, and Horne Tooke, for constructive treason, it was the jury who by their intrepidity arrested the tide of state prosecutions, which in 1794 threatened to overwhelm our liberties; and abolished for ever from our penal code the doctrine of constructive treason, scarcely less insidious and arbitrary in its character than that of *complicité morale*, recently introduced into France by the Chamber of Peers. What juries have done before they may do again; and we hope we have not transgressed the limits of our duty, in thus indicating by argument and illustration the mode and the spirit in which the jurymen of Staffordshire should perform theirs.

The Queen held a privy council at three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, at Windsor Castle. It was attended by Prince Albert, the Duke of Wellington, Sir Robert Peel, Sir James Graham, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Stanley, the Right Hon. H. Goulburn, and the Earl of Delawarr. Parliament was ordered to be further prorogued from Thursday the 6th of October, until Thursday the 10th of November. A form of prayer and thanksgiving was agreed on for the late abundant harvest. An order in council was issued, ordering the Special commission for the County Palatine of Lancaster to be holden at Liverpool.

It is reported that her Majesty and Prince Albert, with their family, intend to visit Brighton at the end of October, and to remain at the Royal Pavilion about a month or six weeks.

By a communication received from a dignitary of the established church, we are informed that her Majesty's privy council have given directions for the preparation of a form of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the late manifestation of his goodness by the most bountiful harvest that has, in the memory of man, ever graced this country.—*Standard*.

Military savings' banks are to be established in the several regiments of infantry and cavalry in her Majesty's service. The rate of interest is to be £3 16s. 0d. for every £100. The Secretary of War, with the concurrence of the Commander-in-chief, and the Treasury Commissioners, are to frame the rules.

Lord Ashburton arrived at Portsmouth, from America, on Friday last, by the Warspite, which made the passage in 17 days. His lordship immediately proceeded to his seat in Anglesea.

By the death of the Marquis of Wellesley, a stall in the Order of the Garter falls to the patronage of ministers, and the office of custos rotulorum of the county of Meath also becomes vacant. The Marquis was a Knight of the Turkish Order of the Crescent, and of the Persian Order of the Lion and Sun.

We have heard that our military force in Canada is to be reduced immediately, and that, should the war in China continue, several regiments will proceed from America to the East.—*Naval and Military Gazette*.

Three first-rates, three second-rates, and four third-rate men-of-war are ordered to be brought forward at Sheerness, ready for commissioning. India and China are reported as being the destination of some of them.

Nearly four thousand pounds have been already subscribed for the monument to the memory of the late Thomas William Coke, Earl of Leicester. Prominent amongst the subscribers is Lord Wodehouse, the lord-lieutenant of Norfolk, for £50., who had all through life been opposed to the deceased peer in politics.

The London correspondent of the *Mercantile Advertiser* says:—“Parliament will not assemble next year until Tuesday the 28th of February, three weeks later than usual, unless some unforeseen circumstances should render it necessary for ministers to alter their arrangements.

The will of the late N. T. Longman, Esq., of the firm of Rees, Orme, and Co., the well known booksellers of Paternoster row, has just been proved, by the executors, in the Prerogative court of the Archbishop of Canterbury, in Doctors' Commons. The personal property of the deceased has been sworn under the value of £200,000, which is principally left to his widow and family.

SCOTLAND.

A subscription for the sufferers from the melancholy accident at Edinburgh, during her Majesty's progress, has commenced. Her Majesty has subscribed 100*l*.

A body of six hundred colliers assembled at Kilmarnock on Wednesday, and turned out some hands. The Ayrshire yeomanry were called out in the evening, and on Thursday morning a portion of the force was stationed at Irvine. The turned-out colliers had not resorted to any violence.

A public meeting of colliers was held on Thursday at Townhill. Resolutions were passed unanimously not to return to work unless their demands were acceded to by the masters. Another meeting was held at Halbeath on Saturday, where the same resolutions were also unanimously adopted. Since then all the works, including the Elgin, have been at a stand. It is understood that the Inzievar colliery proprietor has agreed to the demand of the workmen, and it is reported that Sir Philip Durham has also acceded. The potato fields in the neighbourhood, we are sorry to say, are at present subject to frequent plunder during the night. A memorial to the coal masters in the district has been numerously signed, recommending them to grant the demands of their workmen, and a subscription has been set on foot for their support.—*Fife Herald*.

On Thursday se'nnight about forty hands at Elgin colliery returned to work out their warnings; and, being night, some of their windows were smashed, and one man had a shot fired in at his window, which pierced through the shutter, and two leaden slugs were found lying on his floor. On Friday five men were apprehended by the county police, on suspicion of being concerned in this infamous act. They were examined on that and the following day, and liberated on Monday, on entering into their own recognisances to appear when called upon. It is said that they all maintained a dogged silence, and would answer no questions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ACCIDENT AT PISA.—On the 5th instant the town of Pisa was thrown into consternation by the following dreadful accident:—While upwards of 200 persons were assembled at an amphitheatre, near one of the gates of the town, engaged in, and spectators of, the game of ball, a wall suddenly sunk under them, brought down other parts of the building, and buried them in its ruins. Immediate exertions were made, and the dead body of a child was first taken out; 56 persons were found severely injured, the lives of several being despaired of. The rest escaped, some with slight bruises, others unhurt. Many of the sufferers belong to the first families of Pisa.

LOSS OF A RUSSIAN MAN OF WAR.—A Russian ship of the line, a new seventy-four, going from Archangel to the Baltic for her stores, was lost last Sunday week on the coast of Norway, off Christiansand, with about 400 men. The wind was a high northerly gale off the land; and it is not known whether she sprang a leak or was out of her reckoning, but many reports, all unfavourable to the captain and officers, were in circulation at Gottenburgh.

CURE FOR THE CHOLERA.—This painful and distressing disease, which is now exhibiting itself in various parts of the kingdom, has been successfully combated and effectually cured by the following medicine, which cannot be too widely made known to the public:—Take equal quantities of the spirit of sal volatile, essence of peppermint, and liquid laudanum (say a quarter of an ounce of each), which pour together into one bottle. Of this mixture take a small tea-spoonful in half a glass of brandy, to which add a little hot water; which swallow, and repeat the dose in two hours, if necessary. This has seldom failed to afford almost immediate relief; and a second dose mostly effects a cure. The above dose is for a grown person, and should be increased or diminished according to the strength and habit of the patient. The writer has felt immediate benefit from the use of it, and he has also given it to persons with the same success.—*Morning Advertiser*.

WORTHY OF IMITATION.—A female domestic in the Queen's household, having joined the Wesleyan methodists, was discharged by her superior. Her Majesty, hearing of the dismissal, and its cause, observed that she wished no person in the land—much less any person in her own house—to suffer for religion's sake; and the superior domestic was instantly dismissed, and the young Wesleyan restored to her office.

FOREIGN HARVESTS.—The harvest is almost entirely gathered in throughout the east of Europe; and we are enabled to furnish the following comparative estimates, collected from the most accurate accounts:—In Silesia, there has been a good average harvest. In Poland, in Galicia, and in the Duchy of Posen, there has been a decidedly good harvest; and the same may be said with respect to Russia. In Hungary, the crops have been most satisfactory; and in the Banat, which is regarded as the granary of the country, they have been doubly as productive as those of last year. In Transylvania and the Turkish provinces, the harvest has also been most plentiful. Similar abundance has also been experienced in Moravia. Everywhere the grain is of good quality, and yields from fifteen to twenty per cent. more flour than in humid years. It may, therefore, be fairly predicted, that, in the east of Europe, the price of wheat will fall, instead of rising, even though foreign demand should be very great.—*Allgemeine Zeitung*.

AN ILLUSTRATION OF PROTECTION.—Port wine can be had for 40s. a dozen from Oporto, through the intervention, it may be, of a trade in Sheffield cutlery to Portugal. Up stands a man and says he will be

bound to make good wine that shall pass for port, in hothouses at home, for the small charge of 80s. a dozen; and he shall conceive himself an ill-used gentleman if the legislature will not encourage domestic industry, and the members for Sheffield vote for the same. And the instrument he will propose shall be a duty to be laid on Oporto port, to raise the price to 80s., or it may be to 85s. Suppose, then, he is in full enjoyment of his scheme. Wine-drinkers are drinking the home-made port at 80s.; and all this, it is boastfully affirmed, is laid out on British industry. But was not 80s. laid out on British industry before; to wit, 40s. on the industry of Sheffield, and 40s. more on that other place, wherever it was, where the consumer chose to indulge himself with something for his money? If so, what is the national gain, but a clear loss of 40s. to the consumers of vinous comforts?—*Colonel Thomson's Exercises.*

AN INVISIBLE COMPANION.—A correspondent in the *Liverpool Albion* gives the following narration:—"A young lady of fifteen, in good health, and a mind by nature and education superior to her years, without superstition and almost without fear, has recently been attended by an invisible being, whose footsteps she can distinctly hear, not always, but occasionally, during her walks, where no echoes could arise, and frequently in the house, where she can plainly hear its steps ascend the stairs and come into the room, sometimes standing behind her, and often sighing, its breathings being as palpable as if the warm breath of a human being was uttering a similar exhalation. She has frequently attempted to speak to this aerial being, but a something, which she says is not fear, seems to choke her utterance. She, but more particularly her friends, have treated this subject with some ridicule; but a singular corroboration of its unaccountable truth has recently occurred, of which I have just been witness. A favourite cat, that is often in the habit of lying on her bed, seems frequently conscious of its presence, and this night I had an opportunity of seeing its strange probability. While engaged one evening in her bed room, the cat that was lying on her bed suddenly sprang up, as if some stranger had entered the room, and, looking for a moment in a particular direction, jumped off and ran down stairs. The direction was the same towards which the young lady looked, quietly saying, 'I heard it come in, and it stood just there;' for it seems to pass away on her speaking to her friends, or come and go of its own accord, without any circumstance that can mark or cause its unpleasant attendance. There is no possible inducement to cheat me, and I have none to delude you. The ridicule attached to such dreams, beyond philosophy, will certainly force me to adopt a fictitious signature—all else is fact; and, though I am as great a sceptic as any man living, I cannot disbelieve what I have written, which I pray some of your occult readers to interpret."

The vast country between the rivers Pjasida and Chatanga, in Siberia, extending to the Icy Sea, is about to be visited by a scientific expedition, under the direction of the Academy of Sciences of St Petersburg.

Statues of the illustrious men of the province of Bruges have been ordered to be erected in the towns and villages in which they were born, by the Provincial Council of that city.

The heats of the summer have so dried up the waters of the river Elbe, that the water-mills are all at a stand; and near Pirna the river is entirely dry. The waters, in retiring, have given up a secret kept by them for more than two hundred years. A square stone is left bare having the following significant inscription in Saxon patois—"When last men saw me, in August, 1629, they wept; and they who see me next shall weep too."

A JACK TAR'S IDEA OF A LOCOMOTIVE.—"Why," says he, "there's nothing manly about it. Watch a ship, now, with her canvas bellying out, laying down to it just enough to show she feels the breeze, tossing the spray from her bows, and lifting her head over the seas as if she stepped over 'em; there's something like life there. There's something noble about a horse; he steps as if he knew where he was going, and proud of his duty, and able to do it. But the lubber—bah! that there concern comes insinuating, sneaking along—crawling on his belly, like a thundering long snake with a pipe in his mouth."

PUNCH'S STATISTICS OF LEGISLATION.—The session of 1842 is at length over, and we are happy to be enabled to give the following statistical information regarding the events by which the first session of conservative rule has been distinguished. The House has sat upwards of 100 days, and has soiled in the same period nearly 700 white waistcoats. Out of more than a thousand speeches, about one half have sent their hearers to sleep; and of 200 orators two have been pulled down by their friends to prevent them continuing to make fools of themselves. There have been nearly 30,000 "cheers," and the word "hear" has been repeated so often that statistical vigilance has been unable to keep pace with it. Of miscellaneous noises there have been six, the two principal of which are crowing like a cock, and braying like an ass; the latter having been the more natural. Of the reports of committees the number has been large, and the result in waste paper very considerable. Of legislative improvements two have been partially effected, and 26 have been talked about.

RARITIES.—The following is taken from an account of the public objects of interest in Boulogne by the facetious *Punch*:—"The museum is a splendid fabric, and contains many astounding curiosities. We cannot swell our notice into a catalogue, so must therefore content ourselves with naming two or three of the principal wonders:—The first thought of Napoleon to invade England, hermetically sealed in a large bottle. The second ditto, to leave her alone—in a very small phial. The mummy of a French lodging-house keeper, who refused to make money of the English. (This specimen is supposed to be unique.) The public spirit of the townspeople of Boulogne, cut in flint. (This rarity is, however, so minutely executed, that it requires the very strongest microscope to catch a glimpse of it.) The building contains a fine picture gallery. Amongst the noblest historical paintings is one celebrating Napoleon's first supper at St James's palace—George the Third, with salver under his arm, waiting upon the conqueror. The supper never took place, but that was no fault of the painter."

SAFETY IN A STORM.—During the late terrific thunder storm, R— (who says the best things in London) stated that he had taken refuge in the safest place in town. Being asked where that was, he replied, "In an omnibus." "Why?" "Because it has a conductor."—*Literary Gazette.*

LITERATURE.

The Modern Pulpit viewed in its Relation to the State of Society. By ROBERT VAUGHAN, D.D. 8vo, pp. 203. Jackson and Walford: London, 1842.

THIS essay was wrought into its present shape out of the "raw material" presented on a collegiate occasion at Birmingham. Not being able to treat his subject fully "within the space allotted to him in the pulpit" (a questionable mode of expression), the learned author "recast and greatly expanded the whole matter of the discourse, in the hope of rendering it in some degree less unworthy of the subject to which it relates." For the audience assembled on the occasion referred to, "at the annual meeting of Spring Hill college in June last," there would be much edifying matter furnished. We may give a sort of guess at the effect then and there produced by the original, from the published dissertation. Diligent students and professorial magnates, nursing trustees and inquisitorial visitors, diaconal patrons, official potentates, and unpretending subscribers, were all and each duly supplied with both the necessities and the delicacies of the solemn occasion—with "the best of everything" out of the ample store-house of Dr Vaughan's staple commodities. Solid was the advice, clear were the views, grave was the earnestness, unquestionable the ability, of the reverend orator; who brought forth, as is his wont, some very good history, and seasoned the lessons derivable from his extensive acquaintance with the past with a moderate sprinkling of prediction for the future.

That much excitement was produced, or any very intense enthusiasm elicited, we cannot suppose. There would be little of wonder at brilliancy, or weeping at pathos, or rapture at eloquence, or awe-struck homage at profundity. The effort is not reported to have been followed by any miraculous effects. No very momentous sensations would throb the hearts of the "cheerful givers." No brave act of devotion, or dedication, or beneficence, that we have heard of, concentrated the result of all the orator had said, either to attest his appeals or perpetuate his triumph. There might still be no weariness at the reiteration of common-places—there was no idle sycophancy, no flattery, no self-complacency—the character of the lecturer for learning, talent, and integrity, forbids any such imputation. But we may venture to say that no blow was struck which told at the time, and is telling now, and shall tell for many a day to come. Every one must have felt, and none more than the speaker, that from the circumstances of the time, and the position in which the dissenters had placed themselves, no real, effective, telling impression had been made—no true, rousing, oracular word uttered which could meet our case, dispel our fears, and elevate our expectations. No light from the very depths of the consecrated heart and intellect kindles like a revelation before the assembly—exalting, and opening, and purging each vision to the serious events and novel relations of the times and the seasons which are passing over us. And yet, as all this lies within the range of the speaker's ability to do, so was it most surely in his heart to have spoken such seasonable words.

But to descend from speculation as to what might have occurred on the classical summit of Spring hill, what is to be thought of the discourse, as now elaborated and uttered for the general weal? We have already hinted our opinion; the reader of the book, and the hearer of the lecture, are precisely in the same predicament. So far as it goes, it is a good book, a judicious book, a seasonable book. It touches important parties, and still more important interests. The student will do well to con it and digest it. Those invested with the ministerial tutelage amongst us should seek to act up to the mark of the advices tendered. The demands of the age are high, and the nonconformist churches should see to it that they, and not others, do meet and supply them. Dr Vaughan's materials are sorted well, and becomingly set forth in this dozen of chapters. The supporters of the congregational form of polity will find much good in this little work. The book, too, is from the pen of no alarmist, and yet here the author is an alarmist. Fearful admissions of the failure of the pulpit amongst the nonconformists are unhesitatingly made. The truth is spoken, and nothing but the truth—but, after all, we fear we must add it is not, in our humble opinion, the whole truth that is here spoken. It is a touch, and but a touch, on the "pulpit, drum ecclesiastic." We cannot complain of the violence of the ex-professor's stroke, on that famous, and let politicians say or think what they please, still formidable instrument. There certainly is no splitting of the hearing ear, no astounding of the understanding heart. The tocsin is not emphatically alarming—not by one-hundredth part alarming enough, looking at the present state of nonconformity, and the great cause involved in its diffusion and permanency. The alarm is not so loud as it should be. It is as far from the needed thunder-blast of the "loud, uplifted, angel trumpet" of reformation, as it is from the concealed piano of mere hum-drum.

If all were done to-day or to-morrow, that Dr Vaughan wants or recommends, the case of the "Modern Pulpit," so far as nonconformists are concerned, would not be much improved unless other, and equally, and more important things were done as well. Were his suggestions acted upon, we might have more of learning, and even more popular preaching; but it is not in such accomplishments as these that the dissenting brethren are either deficient, or labour under any serious real or comparative inferiority. What we said in our notice of Dr McAll's posthumous sermons, we feel no inclination to retract here; that the dissenting pulpit is quite as well, if not better, filled than that of either establishment. It is most desirable, nay it is imperative, as Dr Vaughan asserts, that dissenting colleges should be cherished and supported as warmly, as liberally, as anxiously, as either our chapels, or our bible and missionary societies. But what is

wanting is not merely high scholastic attainments, or greater power of public persuasion, or even more of a truly pastoral spirit. We will take it for granted that these essential things are secured under the regulations of the existing system, though we are by no means content with a stationary, much less a retrograde equality.

The fact is, that all the "relations" of society are out of joint; and the relations between the nonconformist pulpit and the people are not, on Dr Vaughan's own showing, in a right or sound state. Once set this right—once harmonise the now conflicting relations of the pulpit and the people, and, under God's blessing, it will go far to revive religion, beautify society, and redeem the land.

There is a very general impression that "all is not well" among the Nonconformists. Why do charges, and orations, and sermons, and projects, and such homilies as the one before us, fall so dull on the private and the public ear? There is no certainty of success; and where there is no certainty of success, aye, of broad, unquestionable success, there is no effort.

Let the dissenting ministers do their duty by the popular cause—let them do their duty politically—let them so act, and so speak out of the pulpit for the people, as to re-knit the severed bonds of mutual confidence and love between the working classes and the gospel heralds; let them be valiant in the cause of the truth, and consistently follow out in practical politics all the sublime ethics which Heaven has charged them to preach. While the Sunday and the sanctuary are not to be profaned by the ephemeral conflicts of time; let not the whole space between one day of rest and another be passed through without some demonstration of largeness of heart, for the rights, and some unequivocal evidence of sympathy for the wrongs, of the neglected and oppressed masses of our countrymen; then, and not till then, will the drooping heart of our glorious cause be revived—heroic courage and high daring will mark the march of onward civilization—priestcraft will be baffled—superstition put away; politics will be informed with all the purifying influence of the gospel; and the ark of a people's freedom will be best upheld by the pure hands of the people's chosen and highest teachers.

A Review of the Bishop of London's "Three Sermons on the Church." By JOHN HOWARD HINTON, M.A. London: Houlston and Stoneman.

THE Bishop of London recently preached and published three sermons on the church, the evident purpose of which was to prove that the portal to heaven is the true church of Christ, and that the church of England is that true church. It appears from his representation that the distinctive features of the true church are three—the pure preaching of the gospel, the right administration of the ordinances, and ecclesiastical government by bishops. It further appears that a church having these marks is constituted the medium of salvation, and is not merely "instrumental as a teacher but sacramental, conveying and dispensing grace." It is this last position—this doctrine of sacerdotal, or rather ecclesiastical, mediation, which Mr Hinton reviews. He brings to his work an honesty of purpose, aided by logical acumen, which remind one of an experienced surgeon wielding the scalpel knife. The Bishop's doctrine is, with all imaginable coolness, anatomised, simply laid bare before the reader's eyes; and, we need not say, it presents but a sorry appearance after the operation. We much wish Mr Hinton would take in hand what he has here purposely, and perhaps wisely, let alone, and expose to the light of day the evils of episcopal domination. Few men, we believe, are better qualified to turn the specious and showy pretence inside out.

The Constitutional Right to a Revision of the Land Tax; being the Argument on a Case submitted to Counsel on behalf of the National Anti-corn-law League. London.

THIS is a kind of legal indictment against the landocracy—an indictment sustained by profound antiquarian research, and by luminous argumentation. The conclusions arrived at are thus summed up:—

"The land was held on certain well-defined conditions; which conditions were in the strictest sense the purchase-money of that land. That purchase-money may be very accurately described to have been made payable as a perpetual annuity to the state, increasing in value as the land increased in value, just as tithe is payable to the parochial clergy, or copyhold profits and other rents to the landholders; with this similarity as compared with these, that the feudal profits bore a fixed proportion to the annual value at the time the payment became due. But in the year 1660, a body of individuals, who were holders of a considerable portion of the land in question, calling themselves a convention parliament representing the whole nation, voted, at least two more than half of them voted, that they should be totally exonerated from the future payment of this perpetual annuity, which was the purchase-money of their estates; and that the said annuity or purchase-money should for the future be paid by other people, who had no share in the land for which they were thus made to pay. However, about thirty years after, the parliament laid a tax upon land, which served when first imposed as some equivalent for the perpetual and variable annuity, the payment of which had been shifted from the shoulders of the landholders. This tax upon land, which was continued for several successive years, was a tax of 4s. in the pound upon the actual yearly value of the land at the time of assessing thereof, and was consequently like the perpetual and variable annuity of which it may be considered as intended to be the substitute and representative, to increase with the increasing value of the land. But in the year 1697, they contrived to frame the tax (9 W. 3, c. 10) in such a form that it should not be an annuity increasing with, and in proportion to, the increasing value of the land, but a fixed annuity that should not increase in value. The consequence of this is, that the said annuity remains at the amount at which it was when the value of a large proportion of the land was only a very small fraction of what it is at present."

"The property or land-tax acts have been examined from year to year, and the attempts to defeat their bona fide operation have been fully explained. It has been shown that the success of those attempts prevented the assessment from being treated as a variable rent-charge, of which nature were the feudal profits; and that thereby the state from that time to the present has been defrauded of the growing revenue which it had precisely the same right to collect that a landholder under the laws of England had to receive an increased rent from his tenants. It has been shown by a minute examination and analysis of the property or land-tax acts, from the revolution down to that under which it is now collected, and a comparison of those acts with the evidence of Mr Wood, chairman of the Board of Stamps and Taxes, given before the agricultural committee in 1836, that the principle clearly laid down in the statutes has not been acted upon, but that in fact the commissioners appointed from time to time for the purpose of carrying the said acts into effect, have acted in a manner not authorised by the acts under which they were appointed, nor by any law recognised in England—consequently, that they have exercised their powers in an illegal manner; and that therefore the whole of the present land-tax machinery is grounded upon proceedings, not only unconstitutional, but also illegal in the strictest sense."

We strongly recommend this pamphlet to the notice of all who are interested in observing the uniformly selfish tendency of oligarchical government.

Protestantism. Five Lectures delivered in the Great Meeting-house, Coventry. By JOHN GORDON. London: Whittaker and Co.

THIS little volume is the work of a man who has made himself familiar with the primordial laws of our moral nature. The object in view seems to be a demonstration of man's spiritual independence, or the right of individual judgment in matters of religious faith and practice. This problem the writer works out by a train of original, well-sustained, and cogent reasoning. The lectures are five in number. The first is entitled, "Religious Liberty." The second, "Christianity." The third, "The Church of the Middle Ages." The fourth, "The Reformation." The fifth, "The Present Crisis." Towards the close of the last lecture, the author avows his attachment to unitarianism—an avowal which, however candid, was we think uncalled for, since the argument, from its commencement to its close, proceeds upon principles entirely irrespective of theological doctrine. The style is clear, chaste, and nervous—the tone, mild and courteous—and every lecture compresses within its narrow limits materials for protracted study and reflection, such as none but a mind which has thought much and deeply could have suggested to the reader. Without professing to concur with Mr Gordon in every sentiment, we must declare our high approbation of his book.

Illustrations of Scripture, from the Geography, Natural History, Manners and Customs of the East. By the late professor GEORGE PAXTON, D.D., of Edinburgh. Third Edition, revised and greatly enlarged by the Rev. ROBERT JAMIESON. Edinburgh; Oliphant and Son. London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

OF the numerous works devoted to the illustrations of scripture, from the modern, physical, and moral condition of Palestine and other oriental countries, we greatly prefer that of Paxton. His industry and research, his skill in the arrangement of his materials, and the readiness and aptitude with which he turns his illustrations to profitable account, together with the fluent elegance of his style, render his "Illustrations" a most enchanting work—equally useful as a book of reading and a book of reference. And the present edition is well worthy of his fame—a convenient size, a clear type, and a good paper, are not its only, or its principal recommendations. With the text of the writer, and distinguished from it only by brackets, we find interwoven, with great judgment, a very large amount of additional information, gathered from sources which Dr Paxton either did not, or could not in the nature of things, consult. "The Manners and Customs," occupy the first two volumes, those now on our table—"the Natural History" will be comprised in the third, and "the Geography," in the fourth. The volume on geography will be preceded by a memoir of Dr Paxton, by the Rev. Dr Mitchell, of Glasgow, as well as by the general prefaces, both of the author and the editor. We trust the enterprising publisher will meet with the success which we are sure he deserves.

Occasional Addresses to Sunday School Children, including Addresses on the Inspiration, Authenticity, Genuineness, and Divine Authority of the Holy Scriptures. By DAVID CATO MACRAE. London: Miller and Field, Westminster bridge road.

THESE addresses are of a twofold nature, which we cannot do better than allow the writer to explain.

"The first part of this volume was originally intended to be a faithful transcript of addresses in the nature of conversations with Sunday school children; the object of which was not only to impart gospel truth to the youthful mind, but to lead it to reflection and inquiry for itself. However, upon reviewing the manuscript, such was the simple nature of its contents, that it was evident it would not bear publication, or at least, that if printed, it would not be appreciated, except by those few who understand the nature of practical tuition. Under this impression three or four of these addresses only are given; the remaining ones in the first part are thrown into a narrative form, and are on subjects selected more from the especial interest attached to them than any other cause."

"The second part consists of addresses to the senior scholars, tending to show the strength of the evidence upon which the truth of Christianity rests. It has been remarked that but comparatively few Sunday school scholars remain to be teachers, and that as they advance in years, and mix with the ungodly and profane, as they must necessarily do in the varied avocations of life, many of them fall away into indifference or infidelity. This, it is to be feared, arises but too frequently from their inability to 'give a reason for the hope that is in them,' which is the natural result of a defective system of religious instruction."

The addresses are characterised by great simplicity, and display peculiar felicity in reaching the capacities of children. They may serve as a model to those engaged in the work of Sabbath school instruction.

Brief Sketches of the Birmingham Conference. By a MEMBER. London; J. Cleave, Shoe lane.

THIS is a thought more happily conceived than efficiently marked out—interesting, but very imperfect—evinced considerable power, but power not fully disciplined—and much better written than punctuated, or printed. The following members are sketched—Joseph Sturge, William Lovett, James Adam, Henry Vincent, Rev. T. Spencer, Rev. John Ritchie, John Collins, J. B. O'Brien, Edward Miall, C. H. Neesom, J. H. Parry, &c., &c. They are all of them somewhat flattering portraits; and most of them, we admit, are fair likenesses. They have, however, been executed somewhat too hastily, and would be all the better for careful retouching. The whole forms a closely printed pamphlet of twenty-four pages, the price of which no one can complain of.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *London Phalanx.* Sept.
2. *National Warnings: a Sermon.* By Rev. J. BLACKBURN.
3. *Oxford Unmasked.* By an UNDERGRADUATE.
4. *Lectures on "The Devil."*
5. *Diary and Letters of Madam D'Arbly.* Vol. IV.
6. *Minutes of the "Bible Christian's Conference."* Truro.
7. *The New Bubble Burst.*
8. *Is our Minister a Puseyite?*
9. *The Defence of the Nation best entrusted to the Working Classes.*
10. *The Rights of Women.*
11. *Physiology Simplified,* by W. F. FRESHAW, Surgeon.
12. *Christian Sympathy,* a Sermon.
13. *The Rioters,* a Tale.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

The Rev. G. Francies, having resigned his pastoral duties over the church and congregation meeting in the baptist chapel, Waterloo road, the pulpit will be occupied, for the present, by various ministers in town and from the country. We understand the Rev. W. Grocer, late of Maidstone, is engaged to preach next Lord's day morning and evening, and administer the Lord's supper in the afternoon.

STAUNTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Tuesday, the 12th ult., a new baptist chapel was opened for divine service at Staunton, a village in Gloucestershire, near to Broadway hill. The Rev. H. Welsford, independent minister of Tewksbury, preached in the afternoon, the Revs. Dunn and Cousins taking part in the service. In the evening the Rev.

G. Lewis of Cheltenham preached, and Revs—Casewell and—Hockin of Evesham took part in the service. The collections previous to and on the day of opening amounted to 144l. 8s. 8d. The total cost being 220l., leaves a debt of 75l. 11s. 4d. now to be discharged. It has been mainly by the persevering and assiduous efforts of the Rev. Dr Ricketts of Cutsden, that this chapel has been erected; who will alternately fill the duties of pastor to a people who seem to be daily and earnestly inquiring the way of truth.

A new church, to be called the Birmingham Railway church, is about to be erected on a site of ground near the Company's central station at Wolverton, for the religious instruction of their servants, and the neighbouring population. The cost is to be £4,000, of which nearly the whole is subscribed.

LEICESTER.—The annual services in connexion with the Baptist missions held last week, excited an unusual degree of interest, in consequence of this being the jubilee year of the Baptist Missionary society. On Sunday, two sermons were preached in Harvey lane chapel by the Rev. J. Aldis, of Maze pond, London; and similar services were held at the chapels in the county. On Monday evening a public meeting was held in the New hall, which was crowded. The Rev. J. Webb of Arnesby proposed the first resolution, which was seconded by the Rev. G. R. Miall of Ullesthorpe. The Rev. J. Aldis of London proposed the second resolution, and Mr Alexander Fuller, a native of Jamaica, seconded it. The Rev. J. Tinson of Jamaica proposed the next resolution, which was seconded by the Rev. J. Clarke, just returned from Western Africa. The meeting was also addressed by the Rev. J. Pike of Newbury, the Rev. J. Buckley of Market Harborough, and the Rev. J. P. Mursell, who stated that £18,000 had already been contributed to the Jubilee fund. On Tuesday morning a public breakfast was held in Harvey lane School room, and was very numerous attended. After breakfast the assembly were addressed by the Revs T. Tinson, J. Aldis, J. Clarke, Mr A. Fuller, and others, and about £100 subscribed towards the Jubilee and Mission fund. On Tuesday evening a public service was held at Arnesby, when about £50 was collected; and on Wednesday evening at Loughborough, when £45 was subscribed.

BLACKTHORN.—On Tuesday week the ordination of the Rev. William Sutton to the pastoral office at Marsh Gibbon and Blackthorn, took place at the Independent chapel, at the latter place. The Rev. George Hinde of Winslow delivered a very appropriate address on the nature of a Christian church. The Rev. Mr Wiffen of Thame asked the usual questions, and concluded the service with an ordination prayer. The charge was delivered by the Rev. W. Ferguson of Bicester.

Sunday the 4th of September was a great day for Ireland. The Lord-lieutenant assisted at the celebration of high mass in the cathedral of Cologne; being the first time since the days of Tyrconnell that any individual holding that office has been known to be present witnessing and countenancing such a solemnity.—*Dublin Monitor.*

MARRIAGES.

Sept. 21, at the independent chapel, at Appledore, Devon, by the Rev. Jerome Clapp, the Rev. WILLIAM PATERSON, of Liskeard, to Miss M. A. CLIBBETT, of Appledore.
Sept. 21, at the baptist meeting house, Eagle street, London, by the Rev. R. W. Overbury, Mr JOHN HILL, of the Stock Exchange, to ANNE, eldest daughter of Mr Henry CRASSWELLER, of Welbeck street.
Sept. 22, at the Baptist meeting, Irthlingboro', by the Rev. John Trimming, JACOB NEVEL, of Irthlingboro', to ANN GOTHARD, of Irchester.
Sept. 22, at Hatfield, by the Rev. F. J. Faithful, Mr CHARLES J. REDDEN, of Newport Pagnel, Bucks, to ELIZABETH HANSON, only child of the late Rev. J. Pinkerton, of Totteridge.

DEATH.

Sept. 26, at his residence, at Knightsbridge, the Right Hon. the Marquis WELLESLEY in his 83rd year. He is succeeded in the marquise and property by his next brother, Lord Maryborough, whose eldest son, Mr Wellesley Pole, is now Earl of Mornington.

SUDDEN DEATH.—On Friday afternoon a respectable married woman, named Mary Wilson, who resided in Clement's lane, Strand, went into Mr Sayer's wine vaults, Clare street, Clare market, for some refreshment, but before she could give an order she fell down and almost instantly expired.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, Sept. 23.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—
The independent chapel, Melbourne, Cambridgeshire. H. Thurnall, sup. registrar.

INSOLVENT.

HARRISON, HENRY THOMAS, Tavistock row, Covent garden, hotel keeper.

BANKRUPTS.

BEERBOHM, JULIUS EDWARD, and SLAUGHTER, WILLIAM EDMUND, Fenchurch street, City, merchants, to surrender Oct. 8, Nov. 4: solicitors, Messrs Crowder and Maynard, Mansion house place.

BROCKSOPP, WILLIAM, 213, High street, Southwark, Surrey, grocer and cheesemonger, Sept. 29, Nov. 4: solicitors, Messrs Bennett and Bolding, 9, Scot's yard, Cannon street, London.

CHAPMAN, WILLIAM, and WOODYER, CHARLES MASON, Hope wharf, Wapping, coal merchants, Sept. 29, Nov. 4: solicitors, Messrs Overton and Hughes, 25, Old Jewry.
CHEW, SANDEES, Clipston, Northamptonshire, flour and malt dealer, Oct. 8, Nov. 4: solicitors, Mr Andrews, Market Harborough, and Messrs Bridges and Mason, 23, Red Lion square, London.

ISELIN, JOHN JAMES, St Bennet's place, Gracechurch street, City, merchant, Oct. 6, Nov. 4: solicitors, Messrs Druce and Sons, Billiter square, London.

PARKES, WEST HENRY, Birmingham, hosier and lace dealer, Oct. 6, Nov. 4: solicitors, Messrs Reed and Shaw, Friday street, London.

REID, JOHN, formerly of St Albans, Hertfordshire, and late of Sydney, but now of 58, King William street, City, chemist, Oct. 6, Nov. 4: solicitor, Mr Smith, 17, Basinghall street.

THOMPSON, JONATHAN, Oxford street, Middlesex, and Cheapside, City, dealer in paper hangings, Sept. 29, Nov. 4: solicitors, Messrs Mayhew and Co., Carey street Lincoln's inn.

GRAHAM, JOHN, and MAILER, ROBERT, South Bridgend, Crieff, and Easter Lochlane, millers, Oct. 19.

HENDERSON, WILLIAM, Rhiddorach, Cromarty, cattle dealer, Oct. 6.

MURRAY, JOHN, Paisley, manufacturer, Oct. 6.

NEIL, ROBERT, lately of the Stamp office, Edinburgh, merchant, Sept. 30, Oct. 21.

SMALL, JAMES, and Co., Kirkcaldy, meat preservers, Sept. 29, Oct. 28.

STEWART, DONALD, Tain, writer, Sept. 30, Nov. 21.

SUTHERLAND, BENJAMIN, sen., Limekilns, Fifeshire, fish curer, Oct. 3, 24.

DIVIDENDS.

Oct. 17, Crosby and Co., Houndsditch and Leadenhall street, London, and Birmingham, hardwaremen—Oct. 17, Clarence and Chaldecott, Abchurch yard, City, coffee

dealers—Oct. 17, Seddon, Calthorpe place, Gray's inn road, upholsterer—Nov. 1, Fell, Sharples and Bolton, Lancashire, bleacher—Oct. 17, Parker and Smith, Worcester, money scriveners—Oct. 25, H. and R. Hildyard, Brigg, Lincolnshire, wine merchants—Oct. 22, Rudston, late of Kingston-upon-Hull, and of Newland, Yorkshire, woolen draper—Oct. 15, Bayntun, Bath, dentist—Oct. 17, J. Byng, sen., Kegworth, Leicestershire, hop merchant—Oct. 17, Barnard, Portsea, Hampshire, coal merchant—Oct. 27, Taylor, Willowholme, Carlisle, Cumberland, miller—Oct. 15, Hartley, now or late of Colne, Lancashire, grocer—Oct. 14, Day, Bristol, surgeon—Oct. 25, E. Sheppard, sen., Uley, Gloucestershire, clothier—Oct. 13, Wilding Rich, Wigan, Lancashire, and William Rich, Leigh, Lancashire, joiners—Oct. 21, Porter, Liverpool, egg merchant—Nov. 10, Gibson, Kingston-upon-Hull, corn merchant—Nov. 1, Bolton, Kingston-upon-Hull, corn merchant—Oct. 25, Ware, Tiverton, Devonshire, tanner—Oct. 28, Jones, Liverpool, grocer—Oct. 18, Newby, Northampton, merchant—Nov. 3 and Oct. 15, Hardy and Threlfall, Lancaster, and Butterworth, Rochdale, Lancashire, cotton spinners—Oct. 21, Brandstrom, Kingston-upon-Hull, and Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, commission merchant—Oct. 21, Brandstrom and Thompson, Kingston-upon-Hull, and Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, commission merchants—Oct. 18, Walker and Co., Leeds, stuff merchants—Oct. 18, Womack, Leeds, cloth merchant—Oct. 17, Bond, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, draper—Oct. 17, Martin, Beccles, Suffolk, carpenter—Oct. 18, Baldwin, Edgbaston and Birmingham, wire drawer—Oct. 15, Weldon, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, and Bell's buildings, Salisbury square, London, feather merchant—Oct. 15, Gaudern, late of Earls Barton, Northamptonshire, feltmonger—Oct. 15, J. and W. Walmsley, Heaton Norris, Lancashire, cotton spinners—Oct. 17, Johnson, Manchester, quilting manufacturer—Oct. 14, Jackson, Birmingham, timber merchant—Oct. 17, Belton, Deeping St James, Lincolnshire, draper—Oct. 15, J. and R. Bradbury, Greenacres-moor, Oldham, Lancashire, cotton spinners—Oct. 25, Bridges, Bristol, brewer—Oct. 15, J. and R. Thomson, Liverpool, merchants and commission agents—Oct. 17, Martyn and Moody, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, wholesale and retail linen and woolen drapers, silk mercers and hosiers—Oct. 17, Storey, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, linen and woolen draper—Oct. 15, Kennan, late of Manchester, calico printer and warehouseman—Oct. 17, Matthews, Ledbury, Herefordshire, builder—Oct. 15, Hobhouse and Co., Bath, Somersetshire, bankers—Nov. 1, S. and W. T. Clough, Eccleston, Lancashire, alkali manufacturers.

CERTIFICATES—OCT. 14.

Early, jun., West-end, Halley, and Witney, Oxfordshire, girth web manufacturer—H. G. and A. D. Kellock, Liverpool, brokers and provision merchants—Brayshaw, Great Castle street, Regent street, Middlesex, tailor—Hargreaves, Farnhill hall, Kildwick, Yorkshire, worsted spinner.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

J., J. A., and E. Reeves, Bristol, cork cutters—Stanton and Wertheimer, 26, King street, Regent street—Poynter and Atkinson, Friday street, Cheapside, City, stuff warehousemen—Hemming and Harrison, Birmingham, jewelers—Allin and Furnival, Hanley, Staffordshire, manufacturers of earthenware—Kaye and Fisher, Mold green, Yorkshire, fancy manufacturers—Ebborn and Co., of Sow and Foleshill, Coventry, and Watford, Hertfordshire, farmers and coal merchants—How and Parsons, 132, Fleet street, and Orange street, Southwark, booksellers, and printers' ink manufacturers—R. and J. Slater, Wheatley, Oxfordshire, tailors—M., J. B., and W. B. Stooke, Kingkerswell, Devonshire, timber merchants—Willie and Son, Lewes and Eastbourne, Sussex, timber merchants—T. and H. Makin, Sheffield, Yorkshire, file manufacturers—Day and Stone, Manchester, teachers of chemistry—Sims and Co., Aston, Warwickshire, iron founders (so far as regards E. W. Rabone and J. Tildasley)—Priestley and Sons, Lower Clowes, Lancashire, cotton spinners (so far as regards John Priestley, jun.)—Ackers and Gregson, Liverpool, manufacturing chemists—Beeston and Woolley, Bristol, deal merchants—Newberry and Co., Taunton, Somersetshire, linen drapers (so far as regards T. Newberry).

Tuesday, Sept. 27.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

BUCKLEY, MOSES, Oldham, Lancashire, draper.

BANKRUPTS.

BADCOCK, JOHN, Shrivenham, Berkshire, grocer, Oct. 12, Nov. 8: solicitor, Mr James Haines, Farringdon.

BALL, WILLIAM HENRY, Kennington cross, Surrey, coach master, Oct. 8, Nov. 8: solicitors, Messrs Miller and Carr, 47, Eastcheap, London.

PAYN, ROBERT, Liverpool, master mariner, Oct. 8, Nov. 8: solicitors, Mr Henry Cross, Liverpool, and Messrs Vincent and Sherwood, 9, King's bench walk, Inner temple, London.

SIMMONDS, HANNAH, Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, milliner, Oct. 11, Nov. 8: solicitors, Messrs Parkes and Son, 1, Verulam buildings, Gray's inn, and Mr Cope, Leamington Priors.

SMYTH, RICHARD HODGSON, 103, Cornhill, and formerly of Cushion court, Broad street, City, merchant, Oct. 8, Nov. 8: solicitor, Mr William Bevan, 21, Old Jewry.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

MELDRUM, WILLIAM, Dunfermline, manufacturer, Oct. 3, Nov. 1.

THOMSON, WILLIAM, Kinghorn, Fifeshire, carpenter, Oct. 1, 22.

DIVIDENDS.

Oct. 18, Stanbury, St Matthew's place, Hackney road, Middlesex, bookseller—Oct. 18, Stovell and Maddox, Lower Grosvenor street, St George, Hanover square, upholsterers—Oct. 18, Parker, Houghton-le-Skerne: Darlington, Durham; and Rawcliffe, Yorkshire, flax spinner—Oct. 20, Dunderdale, Manchester, merchant and commission agent—Oct. 22, Haddfield, Rowarth, Derbyshire, merchant—Oct. 21, Claughton, Haydock lodge, Lancashire, salt manufacturer—Oct. 18, Barnard, Norwich, money scrivener—Oct. 22, R. and R. Steane, Coventry, ribbon manufacturers—Oct. 21, Tollitt, Liverpool, bookseller—Oct. 26, Lane, Birmingham, chemist, and varnish and cement manufacturer—Oct. 24, Rayne, Haughton, Northumberland, paper manufacturer—Oct. 1, Yates, sen., Old Buffery Works, Worcestershire, ironfounder—Oct. 19, Burton, Bordesley, Warwickshire, steel toy and brass and iron bedstead manufacturer—Oct. 20, Rolfe, Birmingham, grocer—Oct. 21, Ridout, Ringwood, Southampton, linen draper—Oct. 19, Haddingham, Cambridge, linen draper—Oct. 31, Dicken and Bromby, Drayton-in-Hales, otherwise Market Drayton, Shropshire, bankers—Oct. 22, Frost, jun., Liverpool, merchant—Oct. 21, Clarke and Parry, Manchester, drysalers—Oct. 20, Wilson and Knight, Radford, Nottinghamshire, builders—Oct. 25, Beal, Sandwich, Kent, hayman and cornfactor—Oct. 29, Mitchell, Sheffield, Yorkshire, merchant and manufacturer—Oct. 20, Gillott, Masbrough, Yorkshire, timber, stone, and slate merchant—Oct. 29, Fogg and Steen, Manchester, merchants—Oct. 18, Jackson, late of Haverhill, Essex, wine merchant—Nov. 7, Humberston and Frodsham, Liverpool, commission merchants, and Ramsey, Isle of Man, ship builders—Oct. 22, Dickenson and Co., Birmingham, bankers—Nov. 2, T. and R. Hatch, Eccleston, calico printers—Oct. 18, Scott, Birmingham, and 42, Moorgate street, City, railway carriage lamp manufacturer and general factor—Oct. 22, Barter, Poole, surgeon—Oct. 28, Pearson, late of Wakefield, Yorkshire, but now of York, woolstapler—Oct. 22, Eagles, late of Coed-du, Flintshire, provision dealer—Oct. 24, Coupland, Liverpool, and Jamaica, factor—Oct. 26, Watts, King's Lynn, Norfolk, grocer—Oct. 20, Roach, Bristol, woolen draper and tailor—Oct. 20, Lloyd, Atherstone, Warwickshire, builder—Oct. 28, Hillyard, Bristol, free-stone, coal, and timber merchant—Nov. 4, Bell, Liverpool, linen draper—Oct. 26, Dartnall, Cam, Gloucestershire, clothier—Nov. 5, Worthington, Manchester, flour dealer—Oct. 27, Lees, Manchester, innkeeper and eating housekeeper—Oct. 31, Marks and Barnett, Liverpool, tailors—Nov. 4, Wilson, Manchester, and Workop, Nottinghamshire, commission agent—Oct. 22, Bahr, Liverpool, ship broker—Nov. 1, Bannister and Simpson, Liverpool, shipwrights—Oct. 21, Stewart, Liverpool, merchant—Oct. 25, Graham, Natland, Westmoreland, seed dealer—Oct. 27, Heidman and Co., Congleton, Cheshire, millers—Oct. 22, M'Knight and Co., Liverpool, merchants—Oct. 20, Wright and Carter, Liverpool, corn merchants—Oct. 22, Round, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, plumber—Oct. 22, Ramsbottom, Manchester, hackney coach proprietor—Oct. 20, 21, Geary and Horne, Manchester, woolen drapers—Oct. 24, Hopkins and Drewitt, Arundel, Sussex, bankers—Nov. 3, Barker, Manchester, druggist—Oct. 26, 27, Barnard and Fisher, Bristol, horse dealers—Oct. 24, Milford, Pembrokehire, and Northwick, Gloucestershire, merchant—Oct. 24, Jones, Gloucester and Birmingham, timber merchant—Oct. 27, Shingler and James, Liverpool, linen drapers—Oct. 21, Whitley, Liverpool, money scrivener.

CERTIFICATES—OCT. 18.

Clarke, Water lane, Great Tower street, City, wine merchant—Crutchett, Stroud, Gloucestershire, pawnbroker—Rayne, Haughton, Northumberland, paper manufacturer—Bayntun, Bath, surgeon dentist.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Simmons and Wright, Nottingham, paper manufacturers—Barnard and Co., Norwich, corn merchants—Blackman and Johnson, Hildersham, Cambridgeshire, farmers—Poole and Harrison, Halifax, Yorkshire, brace manufacturers—T. and D. Midgley, Huddersfield—Huskinson and Bousfield, Kirkstead, Lincolnshire, millers—Thorp and Brook, Manchester, stuff merchants—J. and W. Bear, Ramsgate, hotel keepers—Dewey and Jeffreys, North Stoneham, Southampton, farmers—Lunn and Co., Pad-dock, near Huddersfield, cloth finishers—Treble and Newcombe, 409, Oxford street, linen drapers—W. and J. P. Crokes, 151, High street, Shadwell, undertakers—Lines and Apps, Blackfriars road, coach builders.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The depression in the English stock, which was very great at the latter end of last week, has entirely disappeared, and money is now more abundant at lower rates of interest; but business generally continues inactive.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
Ditto for account	92½	93½	92½	93	93	93
3 per cents. Reduced	—	—	—	—	—	—
3½ per cents. Reduced	—	—	—	—	—	—
New 3½ per cent.	101	101	100½	100½	101	101
Long Annuities	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bank Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock	249	249	249	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	53 pm	53 pm	51 pm	52 pm	51 pm	51 pm
India Bonds, 3 per cent.	38 pm	38 pm	37 pm	36 pm	36 pm	36 pm

SHARES.

Railways—		London and Brighton	34
Birmingham and Derby	41	London and Croydon Trunk ..	10½
Birmingham and Gloucester ..	43	London and Greenwich	4½
Blackwall	6½	Ditto New	15
Bristol and Exeter	46	Manchester and Birmingham ..	—
Cheltenham and Gt. Western ..	22	Manchester and Leeds	73
Eastern Counties	8½	Midland Counties	59½
Edinburgh and Glasgow	47½	Ditto Quarter Shares	—
Great North of England	—	North Midland	57
Great Western	82½	Ditto New	—
Ditto New	59½	South Eastern and Dover	22
Ditto Fifts	7½	South Western	58
London and Birmingham	183	Ditto New	—
Ditto Quarter Shares	47½		

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	112	Mexican	35
Belgian	103	Peruvian	16
Brazilian	67	Portuguese 5 per cents	35½
Buenos Ayres	19½	Ditto 3 per cents	21½
Columbian	20½	Russian	112½
Danish	84	Spanish Active	16½
Dutch 2½ per cents	51½	Ditto Passive	4
Ditto 3 per cents	102½	Ditto Deferred	—

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, Sept. 26.

The supply of English wheat this morning was moderate; we note both English and foreign slow sale at a reduction of 1s. per qr from last Monday's prices, and flour 2s. per sack lower.

In prices of barley, beans, and peas, no alteration.

Our supplies of oats have been moderate since this day week. New oats yielded 1s. per qr from the extreme prices made of the earliest arrivals last Monday; but good fresh old oats were no cheaper. The stale, light sorts continue very unsaleable.

Wheat, Red New	46 to 52	Malt, Ordinary	50 to —	Beans, Pigeon	34 to 38
Fine	50 .. 56	Pale	56 .. 60	Harrow	32 .. 34
White	48 .. 52	Peas, Hog	28 .. 30	Oats, Feed	17 .. 20
Fine	54 .. 62	Maple	30 .. 32	Fine	20 .. 22
Rye	32 .. 36	Boilers	31 .. 34	Poland	21 .. 24
Barley	22 .. 26	Beans, Ticks	27 .. 32	Potato	21 .. 24
Malting	31 to 34				

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR SEPT. 23.		AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF SIX WEEKS.		DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN FOR THE PRESENT WEEK.	
Wheat	52s. 8d.	Wheat	54s. 7d.	Wheat	18s. 0d.
Barley	27 2	Barley	27 2	Barley	9 0
Oats	17 8	Oats	18 10	Oats	8 0
Rye	29 10	Rye	31 9	Rye	10 6
Beans	32 10	Beans	33 6	Beans	9 6
Peas	32 11	Peas	33 4	Peas	9 6

SEEDS.

The transactions in seeds were small, and prices had generally a downward tendency. Canaryseed was decidedly cheaper, and carraways were with difficulty disposed of at our quotations. Linseed and rapeseed supported former rates. Mustard excited very little attention. Tares were dull of sale, and the turn lower.

Linseed, English, sowing 48s. to 56s. per qr	Coriander	10s. to 16s. prewt
Baltic, ditto	Old	16 .. 18
Ditto, crushing	Canary, new	75 .. 80
Mediter. and Odessa	Extra	70 .. 78
Clover, English, red	Carraway, old	— .. —
Ditto, white	New	42 .. 44
Flemish, red	Mustard, brown, new	10 .. 11prbush.
Ditto, white	White	10 .. 10 6
New Hamburgh, red	Trefoil	18 .. 22
Ditto, white	Rye grass, English	— .. —
Old Hamburgh, red	Scotch	— .. —
Ditto, white	Tares, winter	— .. — per qr
French, red	New	— .. 56prbush.
Ditto, white	Rapeseed, English, new 31l. ..	33l. pr last
Hempseed, small	Linseed cakes, English 10l. 0s. to 10l. 10s.	
Large	Foreign	7l. to 7l. 10s.
	Rapeseed cakes	5l. 5s. to 6l. 0s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Sept. 26.

The high advices from Ireland last week caused the butter market to open with much firmness, and the sellers to ask advanced rates, which in a few instances were obtained; but towards the close dullness prevailed, and the appearances had a downward tendency. Prices—Carlow, 88s. to 94s.; Waterford, 82s. to 86s.; Carrick, 88s. to 90s.; Cork, 80s. to 81s.; Limerick, 78s. to 79s.; Sligo, 74s. to 76s.; Newry, 74s. to 75s.; Friesland of best quality, 106s. to 110s.; Kiel, 96s. to 110s.; Embden and Leer, 78s. to 80s. per cwt. For bacon the demand was good; prime quality in short supply, and wanted; all kinds move better; prices of old range from 42s. to 48s. Bale and tierce middles without change. Hams are high in price, and in limited supply. Lard of best quality in request, at 66s. to 70s. per cwt. In beef and pork more is doing.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Sept. 26.

The supplies are still very abundant, and there is only a moderate share of business doing at the following rates:—East Kent (new crop), 120s. to 147s., and some of the choice, which are but few, 160s. per cwt; Middle Kent, 105s. to 135s. per cwt; Weald of Kent, 94s. to 105s.; and Sussex, 90s. to 96s. per cwt. The duty has advanced to £155,000, and some are inclined to back it even higher.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Sept. 26.

Trade to-day was generally dull. The attendance of butchers was good, but the supplies of beasts and sheep being much larger than the demand, their purchases did not influence the market. The quality of the horned cattle was unusually inferior; and to this may in part be attributed the restricted business done in beef. The quality of the sheep, on the contrary, was good. Although the trade was heavier than last week, no reduction in the prices was submitted to in beef and mutton.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	3s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.	Veal	4s. 0d. to 5s. 2d.
Mutton	3 4 .. 4 6	Pork	4 0 .. 5 0
Lamb	4s. 4d. to 5s. 0d.		

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday	505	7,420	265	342
Monday	3,664	28,320	129	589

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Sept. 26.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

Inferior Beef	3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.	Inferior Mutton	3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.
Middling ditto	3 2 .. 3 4	Middling ditto	3 8 .. 3 10
Prime large ditto	3 6 .. 3 8	Prime ditto	4 0 .. 4 4
Prime small ditto	3 8 .. 3 10	Veal	4 0 .. 4 10
Large Pork	4 0 .. 4 6	Small Pork	4 8 .. 5 2
Lamb	4s. 2d. to 5s. 0d.		

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, Sept. 26.

Nearly 800 tons of potatoes of excellent quality have been received since our last, the sale for which, as well as other descriptions, has ruled slow at the following rates:—

New Cornish kidney	60s. to 65s.	Essex Shaws	55s. to 60s.
Kent Shaws	45 .. 60	Seconds	40 .. 50
Seconds	40 .. 47	Jersey whites	40 .. 48
Devons	45 .. 60		

WOOL.

The transactions in English wool have been limited, especially in combing wools, prices of which are barely maintained. In clothing wools there is a moderate demand at late prices.

Down ewes and wethers 0s. 10d. to 0s. 10½d.	Half-bred hogs	1s. 0d. to 1s. 0½d.
Down teggs	Flannel wool	0 8½ .. 1 0
Half-bred wethers	Blanket wool	0 5 .. 0 7½

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Sept. 24.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow Hay	65s. to 80s.	New Clover Hay	90s. to 115s.
New ditto	— .. —	Old ditto	— .. —
Useful old ditto	84 .. 88	Oat Straw	36 .. 38
Fine Upland and Rye Grass	90 .. 95	Wheat Straw	38 .. 40

COAL EXCHANGE, Sept. 26.

Stewart's, 20s. 9d.; Lambton's, 20s. 6d.; Hetton's, 20s. 6d.; B. Hetton's, 20s. 9d.; Hartlepool's, 20s. 9d. Ships arrived this week, 162.

GROCERIES, Tuesday, Sept. 27.

TEA.—The transactions were extremely limited in both black and green tea, the attention of the trade being occupied to the public sales, and parcels could only be disposed of but at rather lower rates. The arrivals have been large during the past week, amounting to 30,000 packages.

COFFEE.—Importers of coffee were less disposed to sell, and offered only 432 bags 10 cases 3 casks Ceylon at public sale, but the demand was very limited; Jamaica kind was taken in at full rates, viz., middling colory at 90s. to 108s., low mid. 80s. to 86s.; a few lots good ordinary went to 65s. per cwt. The market closed dull for all sorts of coffee.

SUGAR.—There were several public sales at rather lower rates. Raw sugar was dull of sale. Brown West India at 58s. to 60s., and yellow 61s. to 68s. per cwt.

TALLOW.—The demand was active for P. Y. candle; old on the spot fetched 47s. 9d., new 48s. 3d., and 38s. to 48s. 3d. for delivery.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

PATENT THREE CORD LINEN THREAD.
W. and R. SMITH'S SUPERIOR
PATENT THREE CORD LINEN THREAD on Reels, being four times stronger than Sewing Cotton, superior to Sewing Silk in regularity and smoothness of surface, and of the purest white; is applicable for every purpose; it is also more economical than any other description of Thread, being free from waste, and from the knotting, curling, and untwisting, so generally complained of.

Smith's thread is made in Ten Sizes, Nos. 1 to 10, and may be purchased of the principal drapers in every town in the kingdom.

Sold, Wholesale only, by the Manufacturers, William and Robert Smith, 2, Bow Lane, Cheapside, London.

PERFECTION IN OIL and LAMPS.

The PATENT OXYDATOR, price 5s., renders the otherwise inferior Oils equal to Sperm. So perfect is the combustion in the table lamp that the chimney glasses do not require the usual cleaning, and cannot be broken. Rectified Argand Oil, which never coagulates, and is always free from dregs, a perfect substitute for sperm, in all its uses, 4s. 6d. per gallon. Lamps, Glasses, Cottons, &c. UPTON and CO., Agents for the Patent, 33, George street, Hanover square, and 66, Basinghall street, City. A Lamp may be seen burning, without solicitation to purchase.

N.B. Upton and Co. are the inventors of the Lamps which repealed the spurious Solar Lamp Patent on 7th July last in the court of Queen's Bench.

REAL ECONOMY and BRILLIANCY

of LIGHT insured, by applying the PATENT METAL OXYDATOR to the burner of any lamp in present use. By this means common oil may be used with more effect than the finest sperm, and without smell, smoke, or any other annoyance. The metal plate will last a lifetime, and preserve the lamp glass from breaking; the spurious imitations under the name of fire-proof glasses are constantly taxing the pockets of the users by breaking.—Central Oxydator Depot, 14, Finch lane, Cornhill.—SMITH and Co. supply the trade upon very liberal terms. Agents wanted.

POOLCOO'S CHINESE CEMENT.

The peculiar and extraordinary properties of this composition make it one of the most useful articles ever presented to the public. It is perfectly impervious to hot or cold water, and will resist the effects of the most intense heat. So tenacious and firm is it in its hold, that a new fracture is almost certain to take place rather than a severance in the original. Thus its utility surpasses all other Cements for the fixing and mending of China, Glass, Wood, and Ivory, the setting of Stones and Beads in Rings and Trinkets, &c. Sold wholesale and retail, in bottles at 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 7s. 6d., by the Proprietor's Sole Agents, BLOFELD and CO., Cutlers and Razor Makers, 6, Middle row, Holborn; and by their appointment, at the principal Chemists and Perfumers.

BLOFELD'S London-made TABLE KNIVES, at Blofeld and Co.'s, 6, Middle row, Holborn, London.

THE TEETH AND GUMS.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE.

This is an efficient White Powder for the Teeth, solely prepared from Oriental Herbs of the most delightful odour, and of sovereign virtue for strengthening, preserving, and thoroughly cleansing the Teeth.

It eradicates Tartar from the Teeth; removes spots of incipient decay; polishes and preserves the enamel, to which it gives a pearl-like whiteness; and above all, from its disinfecting properties, gives sweetness to the breath. As an anti-scorbutic, the gums also share in its transcendent powers. Scurvy is eradicated from them; a healthy action and redness are induced, that offer to the notice of the medical practitioner the most indubitable signs of their healthful state.

Price 2s. 9d. per box, duty included.

Notice.—The Name and Address of the Proprietors, A. ROWLAND and SON, 20, HATTON GARDEN, LONDON, are engraved on the Government Stamp which is pasted on each.

Be sure to ask for "ROWLAND'S ODONTO."

Sold by Chemists and Perfumers.

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The quarter commences on Thursday, Sept. 29.

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Fresh Mess Beef	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Prime Mess Pork	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Fresh Preserved Meat	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Fish	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Flour	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Oatmeal	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Raisins	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Suet	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Peas	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Rice	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Potatoes	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Tea	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Coffee	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Sugar	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Butter or Cheese	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Pickled Cabbage	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Salt	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Mustard	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
Vinegar	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	1 lb	7 lb
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